



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>





II

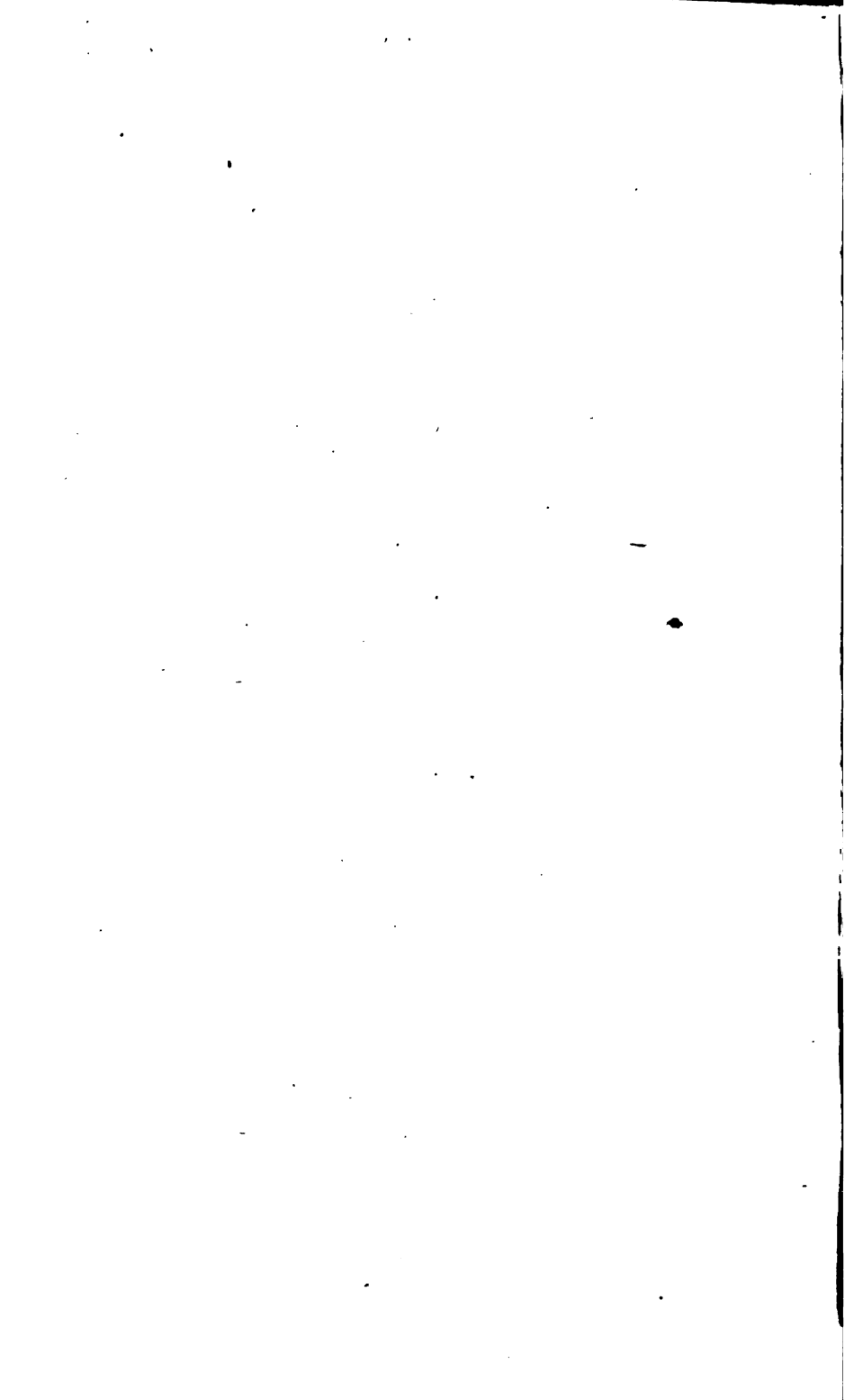
405.12

,1783

v.13

POSTHUMOUS WORKS
OF
FREDERIC II.
KING OF PRUSSIA.

VOL. XIII.



1435-1
LIBRARY
OF THE
WESTERN HEMISPHERE
CORRESPONDENCE

L E T T E R S

BETWEEN

F R E D E R I C II.

THE PRINCE OF PRUSSIA,

AND

GENERAL FOUQUET.

MISCELLANIES.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH

BY

THOMAS HOLCROFT.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR

G. G. J. AND J. ROBINSON,
PATERNOSTER-ROW.

M.DCC.LXXXIX.

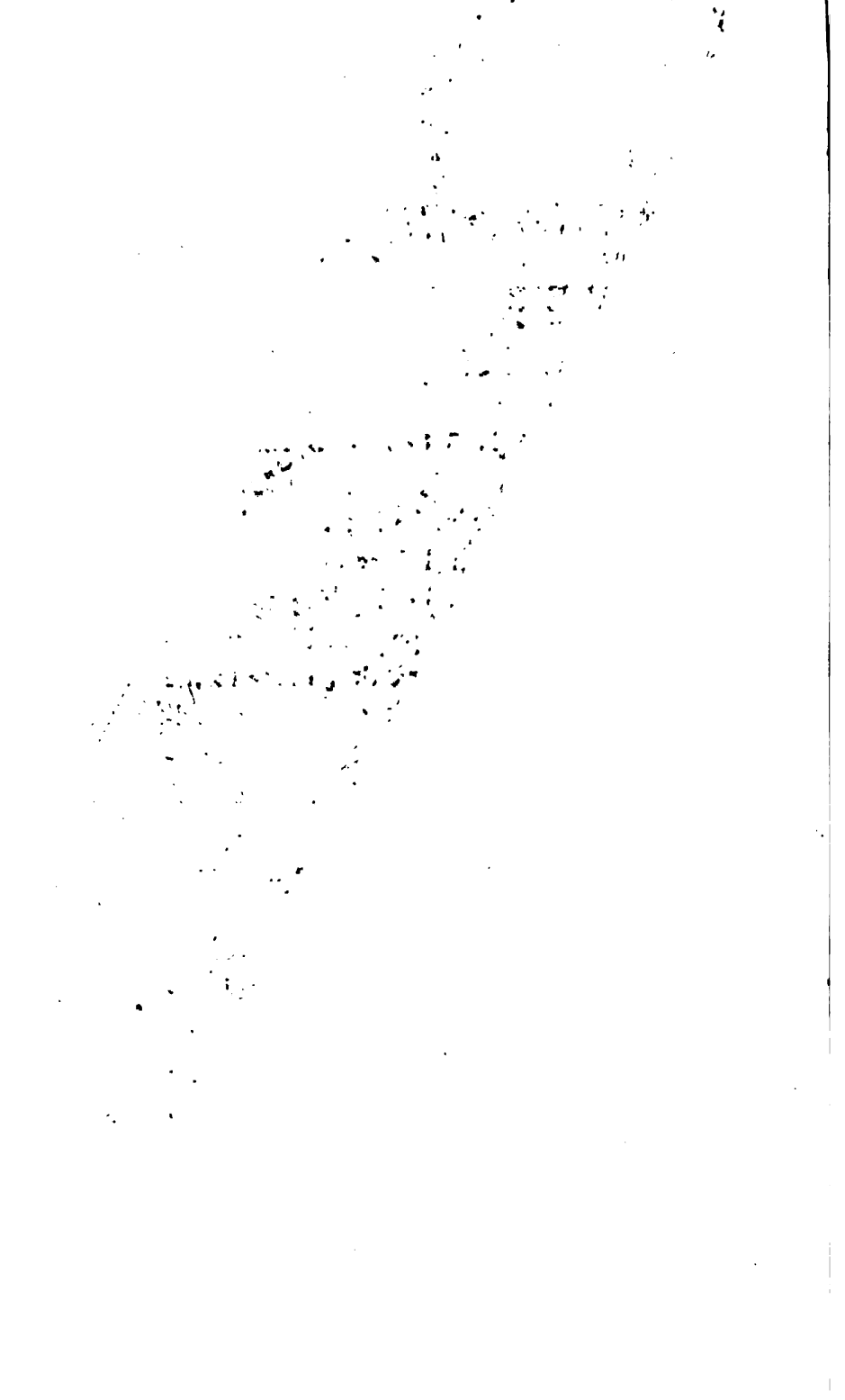


ADVERTISEMENT

BY THE

TRANSLATOR.

I HAVE never met with the following Letters, between Prince Augustus William and Frederic II. in English; nor do I believe they have been published in our language, though, as far as they relate to the character of the monarch, they are exceedingly interesting. The Introductory Narrative, that precedes them, has the most authentic mark of having been written by the Prince himself, which is that of a man who speaks feelingly, yet with all the caution, restraint, and delicacy, which circumstances and his situation inspired. The explanatory notes, to the Letters, are likewise by the Prince. The whole was published by himself, as a justification of his conduct, and as the necessary safeguard of his honour.



C O N T E N T S

OF

V O L U M E XIII.

NARRATIVE of Prince Augustus William.
p. 1

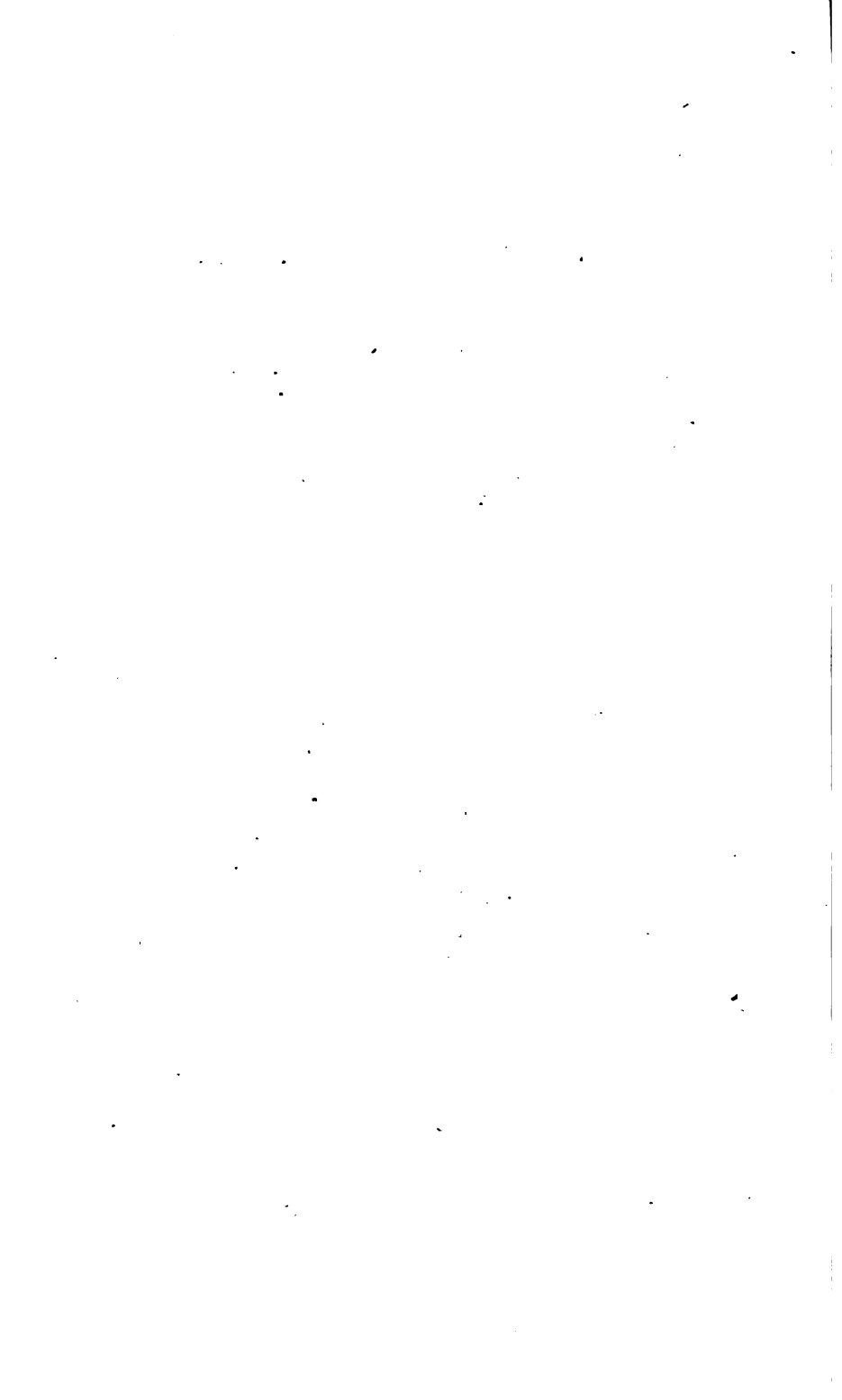
Letters between Frederic II. and Augustus William,
Prince of Prussia. p. 31

Letters between Frederic II. and General Fouquet. p. 73

An Essay on German Literature. p. 397

A Moral Dialogue, for the Use of the young No-
bility. p. 459

Eulogium on Voltaire. p. 485



L E T T E R S

BETWEEN

F R E D E R I C II.

AND

AUGUSTUS WILLIAM,

PRINCE ROYAL OF PRUSSIA.

INTRODUCTORY NARRATIVE.

SOME days after the unfortunate battle of Kolin, on the 18th of June, in 1757, his majesty gave me to understand, by letter, he had determined to confide the vanquished army, with an augmentation of some regiments, to me.

I was then at the camp of Leutmeritz, with marshal Keith. The king arrived there on the 27th of June. He sent for me into his apartment, and conversed with me on all the orders

VOL. XIII.

B

which

which he had given for my conduct. He had a map of Bohemia before him. I endeavoured perfectly to remember every thing he said ; and, after returning home, I wrote to him that, it being possible I might not have perfectly understood his orders, I had taken the liberty to draw up a memorandum, on a folded sheet, and that he might mark in the margin any omission I might have made, or erase any passage in which I had committed any mistake.

My letter was very well received, and the king himself told me he would make some additions.

I hoped the king would sign this memorial, which might serve me as instructions.

I had orders to depart, on the 29th of June, with a thousand waggons, loaded with flour, and escorted by two battalions and a hundred hussars, under the auspices of God and fortune.

Being with the king, to bid him farewell, and about to depart, he gave me a roll of paper, which I was in haste to open. How great was my astonishment to see my memorial, without having been signed by the king, or without a word under his hand ! I departed therefore without instructions, and committed myself to the discretion of the king, who continued free to approve, or to reprehend, my actions.

The

The instructions which the king had given me by word of mouth, enjoined me—

1. To maintain the post of Jung-Buntzlau as long as I possibly could.

2. There to load the waggons with bread for ten days, that, should it be necessary for me to pass into Silesia, the army might have sufficient provision, till it should arrive in the environs of Schweidnitz, from which place it might draw more.

3. To send to general Brandeis, to hasten his march, and to conduct the convoy of flour, which was coming from Silesia to the army, through Zittau.

4. To reconnoitre the roads; that, in case I should wish to join the king at Leutmeritz, or his majesty should wish to join me, the manœuvre might be easily put in execution.

The governors of the fortresses in Silesia, and the chamber of Breslau, had orders to send their reports to me. I was provided with cyphers, that the correspondence might be carried on with safety.

After three days march, I arrived, on the first of July, at the camp of Buntzlau, where I found things in a very different state to the account which had been given of them to me, by the king. There was not a bushel of flour in the

magazine ; but, on the contrary, the dearth of provisions throughout the camp was universal : and there was almost certain information that the enemy intended to inclose us, which might easily be performed, according to the situation of the camp.

I wrote the letter No I. to the king ; and on the 3d of July I began my march, toward the camp of Neuschloß, which act his majesty did not disapprove.

General Winterfeld, in whom the king placed confidence, advised me to retreat still another march, and fix my camp at Leipa. I followed his advice ; because, by this motion, I approached the magazine of Zittau, and thus greatly facilitated the arrival of the convoy.

I placed garrisons in the castles of Gabel and Reichstadt, to secure the road of Zittau.

General Brandeis fortunately arrived with the convoy, and brought us flour sufficient for ten days.

The king wrote me the letter dated July the 7th, in which he very much disapproved my having quitted the camp of Neuschloß.

We had advice of the enemy, and that prince Charles had joined marshal Daun, with the army which had been blockaded in Prague ; that they had passed the Elbe, near Brandeis, and directed

directed their march along the Iser; that their general quarters were at Klaffer, a place in the vicinity of Munchengraetz; that general Morotz, with the hussars, had been detached to Nimes; and that general Beck had taken post near Neuschloß, with a corps of regulars, and some pandours. It was further said, that the corps of Nadaßti had marched to Leutmeritz, and that general Keil had passed into Silesia, with ten thousand men.

From these reports it was not difficult to divine the intention of the enemy. I wrote to inform the king that, according to the position of the foe, it seemed to be his purpose to cut me off from Zittau; and that he would succeed in this more easily, should he fix his camp near Nimes; but that, should I immediately cause the army to occupy the post of Gabel, his design on Zittau might be frustrated, I not then having more than one march to arrive at the place. The answer which the king returned, on the third, will be seen.

I a second time wrote on the 2d; the answer to which, dated the 4th, did not arrive till some days afterward.

Perceiving the king absolutely determined that I should not quit the camp of Leipa, notwithstanding the necessity there was to cover the

magazine of Zittau I formed the plan of detaching a corps of twelve battalions, and some squadrons, to occupy the camp of Gabel; and this detachment was to have departed on the 13th.

On the night of the 12th, I received the fatal letter from the king, dated the 10th, in which he commanded me to march a considerable corps toward Tetschen, because he believed the enemy meant to attack that place. This order was a thunder-stroke to me, for I foresaw the misfortune that would follow. The detachment enfeebled the army so much, that, on the approach of the enemy, I could not spare a single regiment, without exposing myself to danger.

On the 14th, it was requisite to send our wag-gons to Zittau, to obtain flour for ten days.—General Putkammer had orders to escort them, with two battalions. Winterfeld, to whom I had given the command of the corps that was to succour Tetschen, had arrived at Kamnitz. He sent me word that every thing was quiet in those quarters; and that he had spoken to some men who came from Tetschen, and who affirmed they had not seen a single man of the enemy. Therefore the king had been wrongly informed.

Morotz, who, as I have just said, held the post of Nimes, rendered the communication with Gabel

Gabel very difficult. I could obtain no intelligence. A messenger must necessarily have an escort of thirty hussars, and twelve grenadiers. There were two defiles to pass; news was often brought me by people disguised, who were obliged to make great circuits.

On the 14th, I received some advice from Gabel. In the morning, between five and six, I heard a heavy cannonading on the side of Reichstadt, by which our convoy was to pass, and soon after general Putkammer sent me word that he was opposed by a corps of regular troops.

I immediately ordered three battalions to arms, and a regiment of dragoons to mount, and sent these forces under the command of general Leftwitz, bidding him endeavour to relieve the convoy, and to follow it till he should see that its van had attained the last defile of Gabel.

I sent to general Winterfeld, enjoining him to march his detachment to the army, without delay.

The enemy no sooner perceived the approach of general Leftwitz than he retreated, and appeared to desist from his attempt on the convoy. General Leftwitz returned to the camp in the afternoon, and reported that the enemy had drawn in his horns, and that the convoy continued its march unmolested.

Between five and six, we heard a grand discharge of artillery and small arms. I was not a little embarrassed, not doubting but that the convoy was attacked near Gabel; and soon after I saw the five squadrons of hussars, which I had detached to Gabel, coming full trot, by private paths and circuitous ways, who told me that they could not pass the high road, because the enemy held the defiles. The major, who commanded these hussars, reported that general Putkammer, being arrived at Gabel, had met a corps of regulars, that had assaulted him by a cannonading; that he had found much difficulty in conducting the two battalions and a part of the waggons to Gabel; that another corps at the same time had attacked the town, and that the whole army of marshal Daun, in conjunction with that of prince Charles, was encamped near Nimes. This major was much astonished to hear that the great number of couriers, whom he had sent to give me this information, had none of them arrived.

I assembled the best informed generals, to know their opinions on the manner in which it was necessary to act; for it was an affair of consequence.

Winterfeld excused his attendance, by alleging his wounds and fatigues, saying that there
would

would be time enough to deliberate on the morrow.

The resolutions that remained for us to take were—

1. To march with the whole army to Gabel, to support that place ; which appeared morally impossible, because, during the march, our flank must have been presented to the enemy, we must have passed through defiles, and have attacked twenty thousand men with twenty-five thousand *.
2. To join the king at Leutmeritz ; in which case we should abandon Zittau, with the magazine and the garrison.
3. To march to Zittau through Kamnitz and Rumburg ; which last resolution seemed to be the only one that could save the army, and perhaps Zittau itself.

After having well weighed the affair, and consulted those who knew the country, I made every disposition for the march. The vanguard was committed to general Schmettau, with orders to gain the town of Zittau as soon as possible, and to occupy the Eckerberg, which is an important post. The baggage, escorted by several battalions, was to follow the van-

* There is surely some mistake in numbers, here ; the combined armies of marshal Daun and prince Charles must have greatly exceeded twenty thousand. T.

guard. General Winterfeld was to follow the baggage, and form the van-guard of the remainder of the army, with some battalions. We could only march in one column, because the roads were impracticable.

Being uncertain, relative to the fate of Gabel, I followed the advice of general Winterfeld, and sent general Rebentisch thither, with three battalions, that he might endeavour to gain certain intelligence. Scarcely had this general arrived among the hills, half a mile distant from the camp, before he saw a corps of the enemy, marching full speed to cut him off. I was obliged immediately to send general Manteuffel, with three additional battalions, toward which general Rebentisch retired, and which covered his retreat. He brought me one of the townsmen of Gabel, who related that the garrison, after a brisk defence, wanting powder, had been obliged to capitulate. Four battalions attacked by an army can, of course, capitulate no otherwife than by surrendering themselves prisoners.

The van-guard, under the command of general Schmettau, began its march on the 15th in the evening. It would have marched sooner, could bread have sooner been baked; which circumstance occasioned the delay.

I intended to have followed, with the army,

at day-break ; but I lost all hope of this, when on the 17th, at five in the morning, I saw the last baggage waggons were still in the camp. To facilitate the march in question, and assume a good situation, for I had a great deal of ground to cover, I made a motion with my right wing, and stationed my camp on the heights of Oberlibich, where I had a defile in front.

On the 18th the army marched, in one column, to Kamnitz. The baggage, which filed off through Kreywitz, was attacked near Haffel. The fears and the disorder of the camp followers, who always suppose the danger greater than it really is, occasioned several waggons to stop each other, and to break down. Many of the pontons were overthrown ; the enemy pillaged much of the baggage, and took a good number of horses. The pandours, who had taken post behind an abatis hastily thrown up, fired on our men, while others attacked the baggage. Our free company and chassieurs marched round the abatis, attacked the pandours, and obliged them to retire.

As the baggage entirely stopped up the road, we were obliged to destroy the waggons, and leave all of them there, except such as we could not do without. General Winterfeld caused the

van-

van-guard to be followed by workmen to break down the abatis, and to repair the roads. Most of the pontons, not well provided with horses, were broken to pieces.

Two reasons induced us to hasten our march :

1. We had only bread enough for ten days.
2. Every effort must be made, to be before the enemy at Zittau.

On the 19th, at four in the afternoon, general Winterfeld sent to inform me that the roads were cleared. The army began its march, and the van-guard hastened to gain the heights of Kreywitz.

Scarcely had the army decamped before general Winterfeld sent to let me know that he saw a corps, provided with cannon and cavalry, about six thousand strong, coming from the side of Zittau; that he imagined this corps meant to gain Kreywitz, but that he would use every effort to prevent such an attempt.

To reinforce general Winterfeld, I ordered thirteen battalions and two regiments of horse to march, by another road, which was shorter than that taken by the army.

This road was only a kind of wide path, that led over rocks. The battalions marched without artillery, or guard regiments.

We joined general Winterfeld in time.

The head of the army having passed the village of Haffel, we heard a firing of musketry, and some discharges of artillery. This proceeded from a corps of pandours, that had concealed themselves in the forest of Kaltenberg, and who fired when the last battalion of the van-guard, which was that of Brunswick, was about to enter the defile, to cover the march of the regiment of Wurtemberg dragoons. The battalion drew up, and charged the pandours; the dragoons took post on a height near the battalion; the prince of Wurtemberg had a horse killed under him, but received no injury himself.

As soon as the army arrived, I sent general Leftwitz, with three battalions, to support that of Brunswick, and to frustrate the pillage of the pandours. Scarcely had these battalions entered the forest, before, after a charge that continued a quarter of an hour, every thing became quiet. Night came on, and the defile we had to pass extended a quarter of a mile. I took care not to make this march during night; because, on the least noise, the disorder would have been inevitable;—add to which, all the roads were blocked up, by waggons, so that none of the artillery could pass.

I took the resolution to post the regiments on
the

the Kaltenberg, as well as it was possible. The cavalry encamped, surrounded by the infantry, which I had placed round the mountain. The forest and all the avenues were guarded by piquets, and advanced posts; no tents were erected, because the ground was too narrow. Our men were very ill at their ease; they had been harassed on their march, had neither bread nor water, and lay in the open field; which was one of the causes of the great desertion.

One of the horse chasseurs of the king came to request I would send some hussars with him, saying he hoped to find a road, which led round the mountain, that was held by the dragoons of Wurtemberg. He had judged rightly, and brought me word that, on the other side of the mountain, there was ground spacious enough to encamp a regiment in front, and three or four regiments in the rear. This discovery gave me much pleasure, because it freed me from some regiments, we being too much confined.

The same chasseur came a second time, to ask an escort of hussars, and found a road that led to Kreywitz. This road was so little beaten that I imagined it was long since it had been passed by any person; but the discovery made me determine to march in two columns.

General Lestwitz sent to tell me that he had
happily

happily joined general Winterfeld. We were certain that the pandours had quitted the defile that they held the day before, and dispositions were made that a part of the army might take the road of the van-guard, and that the other column might pass by that which the chasseur had discovered. An additional battalion was sent to examine the forest, and workmen were ordered to carry off the waggons, that had been broken down.

In fine, on the 20th, at four o'clock in the morning, the whole army was on its march, and the two columns safely arrived without a blow near Kreywitz, where the van-guard already was encamped. Not having any bread for the day, we gave two gros to each man.

In the afternoon, general Winterfeld decamped, with the van-guard that had taken rest, and I gave him orders to proceed as far as he could, without fatiguing his men; the army followed by brigades, in order that one regiment might take as much rest as another. We passed Kreywitz, and were obliged to ascend a hill, on which we every where discovered broken waggons.

General Winterfeld advanced the same day to Rumburg, and I caused the army to encamp near the village of Schoenlinde. The pandours
had

had taken post in a wood, and skirmished all night long with our chaffeurs, and free company, without doing them any injury.

A battalion of grenadiers, formed of Saxons, that covered the baggage, the same day afforded a mark of its fidelity. It was sent to keep the wood, and the whole battalion, two hundred men excepted, laid down their arms, and passed over to the enemy.

On the morning of the 12th, I was informed by general Winterfeld that the army might shorten the road, should we leave Rumburg on the left, and march immediately to the heights of Unterhennersdorf, where he would wait with the van-guard for our arrival.

On the same day I learned, from general Schmettau, that he had arrived on the 19th at Zittau, where he had found a corps of fifteen thousand men, under the command of the prince of Arenberg, who were there before him. He saw the infantry posted on the Eckersberg, by which he was cannonaded without effect; and about thirty squadrons made a shew of attacking him in flank and rear. The general, not finding any good post which he could assume, caused all his troops to enter the town, and, being in want of forage, he sent away the cavalry, on the 20th, with orders to join general Winterfeld.

The

The van-guard proceeded as far as Spitzkanherdorf, and the army encamped on the heights of Unterhennerdorf, by the side of a pond, that the men might not want water.

General Schmettau sent intelligence that the greatest part of the enemy's army had arrived on the 12th; that the Austrian camp extended from Grothau to Gismansdorf, having Neiss in front; and that prince Charles had summoned the town, and had received the usual answer.

The army marched on the 22d at day-break, and the little baggage that remained had orders to follow. Being arrived on the height of Kalberbuch, we discovered the enemy's camp beyond the Neisse, and two considerable corps, one of which was posted on this side the Neisse, and the other on this side of the Eckersberg. Soon after a corps of German cavalry approached, file by file, from the plain, to observe our motions.

The head of the van-guard advanced as far as Herbsdorf, where the enemy had placed infantry, with artillery, in the burial-ground. For this reason, we thought proper to wheel to the left, and march round the village, which is very long; accordingly so we did. The enemy's cavalry, that had observed us, took post on a

height at the end of the village of Herbsdorf, on the right.

When we had made the tour of the village, and had recovered the right, at the end of the said village, the head of the column was ordered to halt, and the generals were assembled, to deliberate on the means of marching, to procure bread from Zittau.

It was the opinion of general Winterfeld that the army should march in two columns, by the side of Herbsdorf, which we must leave on our left, and approach Zittau with the right wing of the army; affirming that we might then obtain bread without danger.

The generals, who knew the ground, objected that, should we march with the whole army in the plain, and should the enemy be concealed in the ravines, at the foot of Eckersberg, we should be obliged to face about, as soon as they should leave their ambuscade, in which case our right wing would be molested by the cavalry, that had observed our march, and behind which we could not say whether there might not be likewise infantry concealed, and our left would be entirely exposed to the artillery of Eckersberg; should the enemy still further detach a corps, to occupy the heights that we held, the whole

whole army would be so enclosed that it would find it very difficult to extricate itself.

While we were deliberating, the enemy relieved us from our uncertainty, by causing many troops to file off behind Siefersdorf, which troops approached the heights that supported the Austrian left wing. This motion determined the position it was necessary we should take: Our left remained on the heights where we were, having Oderwitz in the rear; a battalion occupied an old redoubt, and the right wing proceeded along the village of Herbsdorf, which the enemy had abandoned.

General Winterfeld marched with some battalions toward Zittau, from which place general Schmettau made a sally, with two battalions, to meet him, and bring sufficient bread for the army, for a day and a half. The enemy cannonaded general Winterfeld, without doing him any harm.

When all the posts were occupied, the best measures had been taken, and the ground had been profited by, not being more than a cannon shot distant from the foe, the men were ordered not to erect their tents, nor to undress themselves. The corps of cavalry, which the enemy had posted on the heights of our right wing, retired at the approach of general Winterfeld.

These heights were occupied by our men, and we there supported our right wing.

The enemy filed off troops all the day, over the little bridge of Schönau. In the evening, almost the whole Austrian army was on this side of the river, fronting us. Several deserters affirmed that orders had been given not to erect the tents. We imagined we should be attacked on the morrow, as was natural to be supposed, from the superiority of the enemy in numbers.

The batteries of the enemy being ready, the town of Zittau was hotly bombarded, on the 22d, and was all on fire about noon. The garrison was not fired upon.

On the morning of the 23d, when every thing was calm, I ordered the camp to be traced, and tents to be erected. The enemy did the same.

General Rebentisch was commanded to march to Zittau, with some battalions, and to conduct the army waggons thither, that they might be loaded with bread and flour. The excess of heat, and the half-burnt houses, which fell in ruins on each other, prevented the execution of this order.

About one o'clock, the governor sent to inform me that the heat, occasioned by the conflagration, rendered it impossible for him longer
to

to keep the place, and that he waited new orders.

I returned for answer he must maintain his post as long as he possibly could, and that he must then quit the town, with the garrison, and march to join the army. This was executed in the evening. The six battalions that composed the garrison fortunately arrived, without having lost a single man, by any attempts of the enemy, but many by desertion. A battalion of grenadiers, formed from the Saxon regiments, beat the chamade, forced the Frauenthor, and fled toward the enemy, except about a hundred men, who also arrived at the army.

Colonel Diezelsky, who was the commander, was cut off from his men, by a house that had been thrown down; and he and the division, which guarded the colours, were taken prisoners; as was also the elder major Kleift, of the regiment of the margrave Henry, with the colours.

The whole town of Zittau was laid in ashes, while we were unable to afford it any succour; it was bombarded by the enemy on the other side, to which we could not march, without making the army file off. Unable to save the flour, and having only bread for half a day, nothing remained for us but to decamp as fast as possible.

The following disposition was made :

On the 24th, at six in the evening, general Schultz marched, with some battalions, some huffars, and the army baggage. The ten battalions and the thirty squadrons that composed the van-guard, under the command of general Winterfeld, were to take arms at ten o'clock.

The army was to march, in one column, at midnight.

The rear-guard, twelve battalions and twenty squadrons strong, under the command of generals Leftwitz and Ziethen, was to occupy the heights, and cover the march of the army.

The army was to march to the left, leaving a forest, named Wood-royal, on the right, and to pass, at the distance of a quarter of a mile, round the right wing of the enemy, to attain the high road that leads through Rupperßdorf, Herrnhut, Strahwald, and Lœbau.

This disposition was happily executed on the 24th and 25th ; except that, in the dark, some regiments of the van-guard crossed each other, and lost the road of the rendezvous ; whence it happened that the army, which was to have departed at midnight, did not march before morning.

We all imagined our rear-guard would be furiously attacked. It may be said we were at
the

the discretion of the enemy, who might have made a disposition that would have much retarded us, and against which his superiority of strength must undoubtedly have interdicted self-defence. But this alarm was vain ; the enemy did not disturb us, and we made our march without any ill accident. Our rear-guard was followed by only some five hundred hussars, who harassed our free company.

The army arrived in the camp of Lœbau, an hour after midnight, where general Schultze already was, with the baggage, without having lost a single waggon.

On the 26th the camp halted, and bread arrived from Budissin.

On the 27th we marched to Budissin. General Winterfeld encamped, with the van-guard, on the heights of Hochkirchen, which post secured a communication with the town of Lœbau, in case the king should have an intention to assume this camp.

On the 28th, general Winterfeld decamped, at the approach of a corps of the enemy, and came to join the army near Budissin. I learned that the king had arrived there, with sixteen battalions and twenty-eight squadrons.

On the 29th he sent his aid du camp, Oppe, with orders that he should be shewn the situation

of the camp, of which he was to make his report to the king, who intended to regulate his camp by ours.

At ten, the king arrived on the right wing of our camp, accompanied by the guard du corps, the gens d'armes, and some fourriers, whom he ordered to mark out the camp for the regiments he brought. I mounted my horse, to go and meet his majesty, accompanied by the duke of Bevern, the prince of Wurtemberg, and the principal generals.

The king no sooner saw us than he turned his horse, and remained near a quarter of an hour in that posture. But he was obliged to face about, to give place to the fourriers. I approached to pay him my respects, but he did not speak a word, nor deign to look at me, and scarcely moved his hat. The duke of Bevern and the other generals were no better received.

He soon after called for general Goltz, and said to him—"Tell my brother and all his generals that, did I act as I ought, I should cut off their heads."

This was no agreeable compliment. Some generals were grieved, others offended, and others again turned it to ridicule.

I was informed the king had forbidden the regiments he brought with him all intercourse with

with those under my command, pretending that my officers and my soldiers had lost their courage, and desire of fame. The king drove general Schultz, whom I had sent to know the watch-word for my army, from his presence; and, when I went to personally deliver him the lists, and the army reports, he hastily took them from my hand, and turned his back on me.

General Schmettau was commanded to withdraw from the sight of the king, and to be gone to Dresden by the first opportunity.

After treatment so disgraceful, I took the resolution to quit the camp, and go to Budissin. On the morrow, I wrote the following letter to the king :

MY DEAR BROTHER,

THE letters you have written to me, and the reception I yesterday met with, sufficiently inform me that, in your opinion, I have lost my honour and reputation. At this I am grieved, but not dejected, not having the least reproach to make myself. I am perfectly convinced that I have not acted from caprice, and that I have not followed the advice of people who were incapable of advising well; but that I have done what I thought best for the army. Your generals

als will all do me the justice to acknowledge this,

I hold it useless to entreat you would cause my conduct to be examined; that would be doing me a favour, which I therefore do not expect.

My health has been injured by fatigue, but much more by chagrin, and to recover it I have left the field, and gone to live in the town.

I have requested the duke of Bevern to make you the army reports, and he can render you an account of all things.

Be assured, my dear brother, that, notwithstanding I am overwhelmed with misfortunes which I have not merited, my attachment for the state will never cease; and, as a faithful member of this state, my joy will be complete, whenever I shall hear of any good fortune, by which your enterprizes may be attended.

I have the honour to be, &c.

The king wrote me the following answer, with his own hand.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

YOUR ill conduct has very much injured my affairs. It is not the enemy, but your ill-concerted measures, that have done me wrong. My generals cannot stand excused, since they
have

have either given you ill council, or have suffered you to take improper steps. Your ears are accustomed only to listen to the discourse of parasites; but Daun has not flattered you, and you see the consequences,

In this distressed situation, nothing remains for me but to proceed to extremities. I must fight; and, if we do not know the road to conquest, we will at least all find the road to death.

I do not complain of your heart, but much of your incapacity, and your want of judgment in choosing the best means. Whoever has but a few days to live has no motive for dissimulation. I wish you better fortune than I have had, and that the ills and misadventures which you have met with may teach you to treat important affairs with greater care, reason, and fortitude. The majority of the misfortunes which I foresee originate wholly in you, but their consequences will alight rather on you, and your children, than on me.

Be persuaded, however, I have always loved you, and that in these sentiments I shall die.

This letter I thought it best not to answer. Having been informed that the king would march in the evening to Weissenberg, with eighteen battalions and twenty-eight squadrons,
I sent

I sent lieutenant-colonel Lentulus to ask his permission that I might depart for Dresden, with the first escort. The king answered the thing depended entirely on myself, and that an escort would go that very evening.

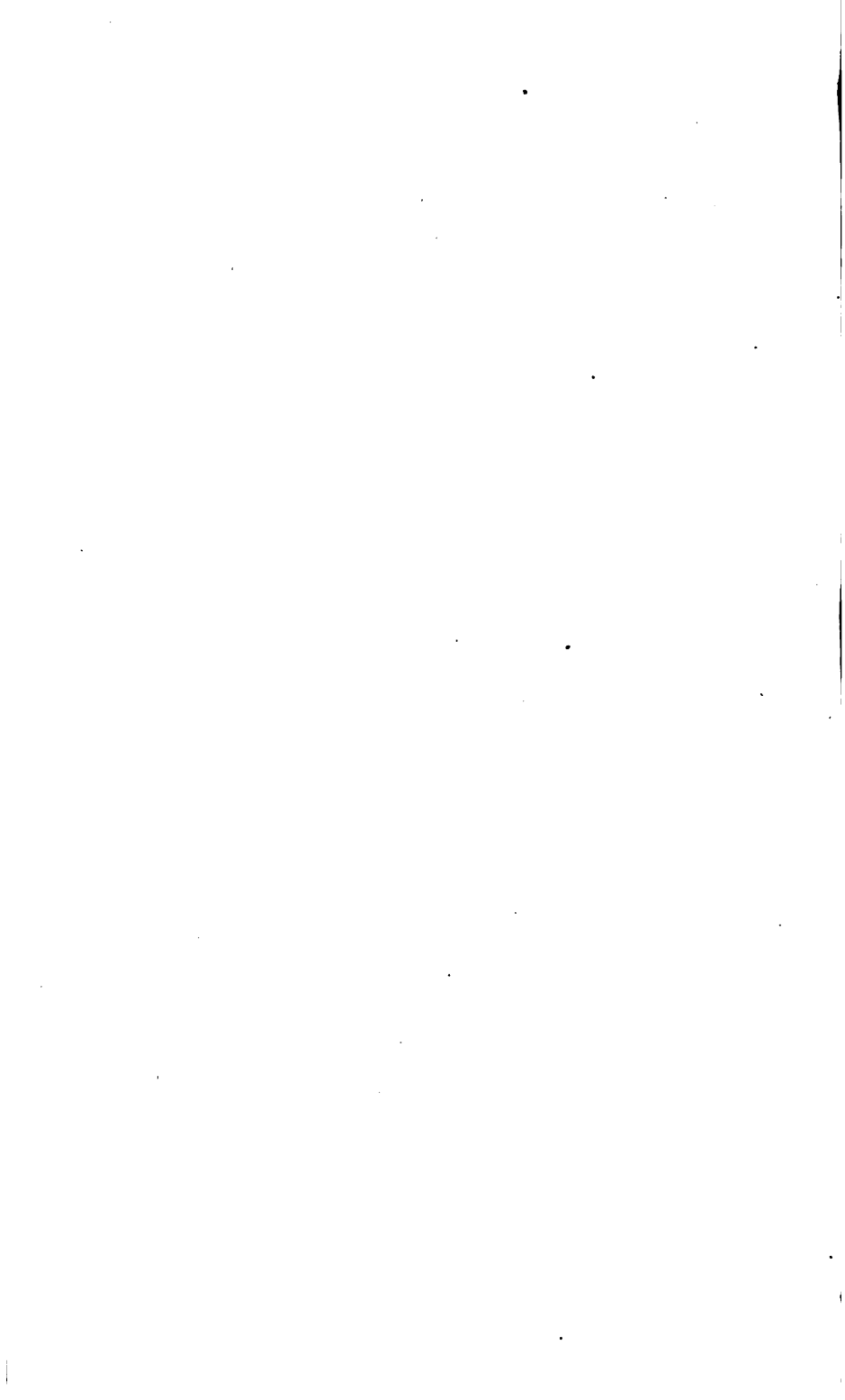
All the generals who had been under my command came to take leave of me, and all approved my determination. General Winterfeld having been to the king, had a conversation with him of two hours, and vaunted that the king had excepted him from the number of generals with whom he was dissatisfied. The duke of Bevern, to whom the king paid no attention, was much vexed. Winterfeld had done nothing more, nor had he given any better advice, than the rest; for which reason, this distinction occasioned much suspicion, and still more when it was known that he had maintained a secret correspondence with the king.

In the evening, at five o'clock, I departed with two battalions of Hautscharmoi and four hundred waggons. We lay in a village, and on the 13th, at noon, I arrived at Dresden.

I immediately wrote to the ministry, and to all the governors of the fortresses of Silesia, to shew them how impossible it was I should send them any succour. To rid himself of their complaints, the king had ordered them all to

address

addresses me, signifying that I was authorised to send them the necessary succour, and to secure the province from the pillage of the light troops, though this was at the very time that he himself knew I was surrounded by the whole Austrian army, and that it was with great difficulty I could extricate myself.



L E T T E R S

BETWEEN

F R E D E R I C II.

AND

A U G U S T U S W I L L I A M,

PRINCE ROYAL OF PRUSSIA.

L E T T E R I.

From the Prince of Prussia.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Buntzlau,

July 1, 1757.

I ARRIVED this afternoon in the camp, with all the waggons; the enemy's hussars have made their attacks, but we have not suffered the least loss.

It is my duty to speak freely to you on our present situation. You may rest assured I have consulted the generals before I wrote this letter. There is neither any flour nor a loaf of bread, for the army, at Buntzlau. Our camp is as well

fixed

fixed as it can be, because it is our purpose to support the town. The camp is more than strong enough in front, but, should the enemy's army pass the Elbe near Brandeis, as it apparently will from the intelligence we have received, we shall be cut off from Leutmeritz.

We are at present so entirely surrounded by the enemy's light troops that there are neither liquors nor provisions in the camp. The purpose of the enemy seems to be to starve us, for it will be difficult to leave the camp in sight of the Austrian army. We likewise want water; for the right wing, that it may not be cut off by three defiles, must be stationed as it now is, which removes it from the Iser.

The regiments have sent off their wounded to Zittau. Most of the regiments have not their baggage waggons with them, I therefore think it will be difficult to send as many waggons as will be necessary to be loaded with bread half as far as Leutmeritz.

While, brother, I propose that which I think is necessary to be done in favour, and for the safety, of the army, I declare to you this advice is not singly mine, but that of the generals who have more experience than I have; and it is that if we were, in all haste, to fix our camp at Neuschloss, we might conveniently join you from this

place as before. We shall thus cover Lusatia; and, according as circumstances shall require, can more easily pass into Silesia. The convoy of general Brandeis may join us without difficulty. Provisions will be more plentiful in the camp, and the soldier better satisfied, which is a principal thing in our present situation. Such is our true state.

We have seen a considerable corps of light troops that encamp near Stenitz, not far from our camp. From these we are separated by a hollow-way. The deserters, who are just come in, affirm that prince Charles will to-day pass the Elbe with his army to attack us, or will come and encamp near us. Should this news be true, and, if I must remain in a camp which I am not certain I can maintain with honour, should I be attacked, I will acquit myself of my duty to you, to the army, and to the state. For this reason I say that, thus situated, I shall march without waiting your orders; but, in case the enemy do not pass the Elbe, I will wait an answer, to which, as I ought, I shall submit. You may rest persuaded that all which I have the honour to write to you is conformable to truth.

I am with the most profound respect, &c.

. L E T T E R II.

From the Prince of Prussia.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Buntzlan,
July 2, 1757.

YOU must have read, in my last letter, the intelligence which was brought us, by one of the enemy's hussars, and a woman of Brandeis, all which appears to me conformable to truth. We take every possible precaution to obtain news of the enemy : one of our trumpets, returned from the army of Daun, has brought a letter dated at the camp of Lissa ; it is hence probable the army of prince Charles is on this, and that of marshal Daun on the other, side of the Iser. The whole corps of Nadaſti is encamped near Stranow and Sobinka, which camp is separated from ours by a tolerably large hollow-way.

General Winterfeld has undertaken to march to Lobes, with four battalions, in order to obtain more certain information of the enemy. Should no alteration happen in affairs, prince Maurice will to-morrow march with his regiment, the battalion of Finck grenadiers, the regiments of Brunswick, and of Stechau, and
with

with a hundred hussars, which according to your orders are to go for bread to Pleiswedel.

We are in total want of provisions, and dearth induces the soldier to reason and examine.

I have nothing further to add, I refer to what I had the honour to write yesterday, and am, &c.

L E T T E R III.

From the Prince of Prussia.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Buntzlau, the evening of July 2, 1757.

PRINCE Maurice will give you an exact account of our situation, and how impossible it is for us to maintain the camp of Buntzlau. The want of water, forage, and provisions, is the principal cause; add to this the information, which comes from all parts, that prince Charles has passed the Elbe near Brandeis, and that Daun is encamped at Lissa, and the corps of Nadaſti at Stranow, by which they may cut off our provisions, and communications with Leutmeritz.

I therefore see myself constrained to assume a camp more secure, and better situated, than this. I mean the camp of Neuschloß.

I am in momentary expectation of the report of general Winterfeld, who is gone with some

battalions to reconnoitre the enemy. When I have received it, I shall make every disposition for marching. Not having received any letters from Leutmeritz, for some days, I fear lest the chasseurs should have been taken.

You may rest assured, brother, that nothing shall be neglected of what is conformable to your will, and proper for the army.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R IV.

From the King.

In Answer to the last Letter.

Leutmeritz, July 3, 1757.

A HUSSAR, in disguise, brought me a small roll of paper, on which I found these three words :

Marched to Hirschberg.

L E T-

L E T T E R V.

From the Prince of Prussia.

MY DEAR BROTHER, The camp of Neuschloss,
July 4, 1757.

THE hussar' is fortunately arrived, with the note.

I had pitched my camp near Hirschberg, because I could not reach Neuschloss. The quantity of baggage has much retarded the march. We have not however lost a waggon, nor is a man missing, from the rear-guard, one excepted of the battalion of Le Noble.

I have assumed this camp, which is but a short mile from Hirschberg, because in my present situation it is very convenient for the army, which may here take rest, and we shall not be in immediate want of provisions. I will send an engineer to-morrow to Leipa, to reconnoitre the town, and the strength of the garrison shall be conformable to his report. After having placed a garrison in that town we shall be in less want of provisions, and shall gain so much the more ground for forage.

I have this day sent to hasten the march of general Brandeis: general Rebentisch may rein-

D 3

force

force his escort at Zittau, from which place he was detached by prince Maurice.

The battalion of Plok remains at Goerlitz, with the wounded, and general Rebentisch will join general Brandeis with the battalions of Kalkreuter, and five squadrons of Werner. The colonel, who is at Zittau, retains a battalion of pioneers and the Kurfel regiment to cover the magazine.

The whole vicinity is occupied by small parties of hussars, and pandours; we do not receive the least intelligence of the army of Daun, except that a trumpet has brought us another letter, dated at Lissa.

I shall cause the roads, that lead from this place to Leutmeritz, Zittau, and through Aicha, to Hirschberg in Silesia, to be reconnoitred, that we may be ready for whatever shall happen.

Prince Maurice has written to inform me that general Bulow is arrived with the bread at Pleiswedel, and that general Meinecke will bring it us to-day.

The ravages and disorders which the women, and attendants on the camp, commit, are so numerous that it will be very necessary to make an example, and I request you will direct me how to act in this,

I am, &c.

LETTER VI.

From the King.

MY DEAR BROTHER, Leutmeritz, July 3, 1757.

YOU must not retreat further into Silesia. You, therefore, have no other road but that of Lusatia. Every part must be foraged, and all ruined which is not eaten up, that the enemy may find a difficulty of subsistence.

As soon as you have established the camp at Hirschberg, there will no longer be any trouble in maintaining a communication with Leutmeritz. We must do our utmost to maintain our ground, till the 15th of August; and, as Zittau is a post of small importance, you may pitch your camp either at Reichenberg, Grottau, or at Gabel.

Should the enemy think proper to turn toward Lusatia, you must fix your camp with much circumspection. Suffer him to pass, then follow him, and cut off his provisions, by which he will be obliged to come and attack you, on ground which you may choose, after consulting the duke of Bevern and several other officers, who are acquainted with those environs. Or should he march, in full force, to Landshut, you must proceed to Greiffenberg to cut off his

provisions. Winterfeld and major Embers, especially, who are acquainted with those parts, can regulate your march and choose your camp. Be not hasty to determine from uncertain information, nor take any resolutions before you are well assured what are the views of the enemy. Spread a report, through the army, that you are projecting a great enterprize, and that affairs will soon assume a very different face,

I am, &c.

L E T T E R VII.

From the King.

In Answer to No. V. of the Prince of Prussia.

MY DEAR BROTHER, Leutmeritz, July 5, 1757.

I AM very well satisfied with the camp which you have assumed at Neuschloss, and which you have very properly chosen, under present circumstances. Being informed that the enemy has views on Tetschen, you must be on your guard, and take care that no corps of the enemy shall station itself between your camp and the Elbe. For, supposing any one should come and encamp in those parts, you must immediately

diately detach a corps toward Budiffin, which will oblige the enemy to desist from his intention.

Should the whole force of the enemy incline to Leutmeritz, by which we should be obliged to join you, I have chosen a very strong camp, between Ploschkowitz and Zaorzan ; but this junction ought not to be made if it can possibly be avoided.

I have received news that the army of prince Charles is marched to Wittendorf, but this I do not believe.

Should you have any thing to communicate, you must choose a hussar who knows the Hungarian language, and dress him like an Austrian. He will thus certainly pass the posts, and, should he be discovered, it is of no consequence, because the letter will be written in cypher ; but you may assure him that, when he arrives, he will certainly be paid six ducats.

I have given orders to the governors of the fortresses of Schweidnitz, Neiss, Glatz, and Cosel, and to colonel Kreutz, to send in their reports to you of every thing which they shall hear of the enemy's motion, and of the places in which the Austrians shall establish their magazines, whence you may judge what are their views.

Should

Should the disorders of the women, and army-followers, continue, it will be proper to make an example, and to hang some of the mob.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R VIII.

From the Prince of Prussia.

In Answer to No. VI.

MY DEAR BROTHER, The camp of Neuschloss, the
morning of July 6, 1757.

SINCE the night of the 3d of July, I have received no letter, sent by any chasseur, and I fear it will be difficult to maintain the communication with the town of Leutmeritz, at least unless we throw garrisons into the towns of Aufsch and Drum, which places are not tenable, in case they should be attacked by the enemy with any force, for which reason I do not advise the measure.

You wish us to do every thing possible to maintain a footing in Bohemia, till the 15th of August, but the want of provisions and forage will render the attempt difficult. All which I think myself able to effect is to wait your orders
before

before I make the least motion with the army ; and, should any immediate resolution be unavoidably taken, you may be certain that I shall consult with the most experienced generals, and with those who know the country, and that, in particular, I shall take no thoughtless step.

I have received a note from general Brandeis, who arrived at Zittau on the 2d, and I have written to him to begin his march, with seven hundred chariots, and with the money. As he will pass near Gabel, I have detached major Billerbeck with a battalion of grenadiers, to facilitate his passage.

But the general has just sent me word that the enemy had anticipated him, and that he had therefore halted with the battalion at Leipa.

A man who is come as a deputy from Reichstadt, to excuse the town to the commissioners, because it had not delivered in the provisions that had been prescribed, the Austrians having guarded all the roads, tells me that he saw dragoons and cuirassiers, and that he had heard it affirmed that the corps of Nadasti had passed the Iser, at Munchengraetz, to march to Zittau, and that the vanguard of this corps was near Nimes. This information did not a little distress us, relative to the march of general Brandeis ; to be certain, we shall to-day send two
strong

strong patrol parties, the one toward Gabel, and the other toward Nimes, to reconnoitre the force of the enemy; and, as we cannot now dispense with our communication with Zittau, the strength of the detachment, which must march to seize on Gabel, must be proportioned to the report which the patrols shall make. General Brandeis is informed of all, and has orders not to march till he shall be sent to. The regiment of Brand has, to-day, entered Leipa, where the bakery is fixed.

General Goltz has written to general Retzau, concerning bread, and demands a new supply of flour.

Our infantry is twenty-one thousand one hundred and thirty-five men strong, and the cavalry six thousand and thirty-seven, hussars included.

I have the honour to be, &c.

L E T T E R IX.

From the Prince of Prussia.

MY DEAR BROTHER, The camp of Neuschloss, the
afternoon of July 6, 1757.

WE have received information from three different spies, whom general Werner had sent

sent to watch the proceedings of the enemy. The corps of Nadaſti is to march in three columns; the firſt to conſiſt of huſſars, pandours, cavalry, and regular infantry, that yeſterday arrived at Nimes; their intention is to cut off our communication with Zittau. The ſecond column is at Hirschberg, and is compoſed of the three regiments of Saxon cavalry, four regiments of huſſars, and a thouſand pandours. The remainder of the corps of Nadaſti is now between Dauba and Berſtein.

The army of Daun is ſuppoſed to have paſſed the Iſer, near Benatck, the day before yeſterday, and to have made a march in advance to-day. It is openly affirmed in the enemy's army, that his intention is to cut us off from Zittau and the magazine.

This various information, confirmed by our patrols, has induced me to follow the council of general Winterfeld, and to pitch the camp at Leipä, where general Brandeis, paſſing through Georgenthal, may join us. After this junction, we ſhall be able to detach a heavy corps toward Gabel. The communication with Leutmeritz will not be more difficult there than from our preſent camp.

The principal reaſon which has induced me to act thus, is the preſervation of our communication

cation with Zittau, and the junction of general Brandeis with the provisions, and the war chest, two things that are in danger of being lost if they be not properly protected.

General Winterfeld will march to-morrow to Georgenthal, with five battalions and a regiment of dragoons and hussars, to clear the road of Zittau.

I have received no report from major Belling, who patrols toward Gabel.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R X.

From the King.

MY DEAR BROTHER, Leutmeritz, July 7, 1757.

I HAVE received your two letters of the 6th, on the same subject. I am satisfied, thus far, with the progress you have made with the army, but I hope you will henceforth retreat no further, that we may not find ourselves in the heart of Saxony, before we know where we are. It seems to me that the post of Neuschloß was strong enough, and that you had only to have detached two heavy bodies, that might have marched to meet general Brandeis, and to facilitate

cilitate his passage. At present I have reason to fear he may be attacked by the enemy, before he shall come up with you; because the hussars have brought me information that they heard firing, in the vicinity of Gabel, which could be nothing else.

The corps of hussars, that has been detached against you, cannot be so strong as it is reported to be, because the enemy has detached two regiments of hussars to the city of Nurenberg. A regiment encamps in these parts, and three squadrons are still with the army.

When you shall have the flour and money, which general Brandeis brings, I beg you, in the name of God, not to retreat any further, for I can foretel you will find no forage in Saxony; therefore by retiring thither you will want every thing, and consequently every thing will be lost.

We have this evening received letters from marshal Daun, by a trumpet. The letter comes from Cosmonos. I hope you have received that which I sent you this morning by a hussar.

I am, &c.

village through which he passed, but he saw no pandours. He has not brought any letters, because they told him I should receive some tomorrow, by a trumpet from the enemy.

It is difficult to divine what are the intentions of the Austrians, for the number of light troops prevent us from obtaining intelligence, and no dependance can be placed on that of the country people. The army of Daun should in all probability be encamped near Buntzlau, the corps of Nadaſti near Hirschberg, and another corps according to report is on its march toward Weiswasser, and is to pass on the side of Zittau. This plan will be rendered abortive.

I have not received the least information of the army of prince Charles.

One of the great inconveniences is that, to undertake a march, I must have thirty-six hours preparation, in order that I may send the baggage forward, in which I abound. I have caused it to be inspected by a superior officer, that I may rid myself of what is superfluous. Much however must be kept, such as the regiments cannot do without.

The intelligence which may be sent me, by the governors of the Silesian fortresses, may inform me what are the projects of the enemy; but in case any attempt should be made on that

province, and especially on the magazine of Schweidnitz, I should deceive you were I to say that, situated as I am, I could contribute to render it ineffectual, according to your orders.

I yesterday sent a disguised hussar with a letter. I know not whether he will arrive, but I have made three copies of that letter, which I have sent you by three different messengers.

I have written to-day to the governor of Teschen, that he may inform me of the state of affairs in those parts. I shall esteem myself happy to conform to your wishes in all things: you may be assured that the hope of my heart will be accomplished, whenever I am able to convince you of my esteem, and of the respect with which I shall all my life remain, &c.

L E T T E R XII.

From the King.

MY DEAR BROTHER, Leutmeritz, July 7, 1757.

I HAVE certain information that the army of the Empire, which is assembling at Furth, is no more than eighteen thousand strong, which number is insufficient to make a diversion against me.

I almost

I almost suspect that the Austrians intend to enter Silesia by Landshut. General Kreutz has written to inform me that a corps of three thousand men shewed itself in those districts, but that it has retired. Daun covers the motions of his army by his light troops. God however knows what he will do. Keep up an unremitting correspondence with captain d'O, lieutenant-governor of Glatz, and with general Kreutz, that you may obtain certain information of the enterprizes of the enemy in those quarters; and make the disposition for marching with speed, if you should be obliged to incline that way. General Winterfeld and major Embres, of the engineers, are acquainted with the country, and with the camps you ought to take, should that province become the theatre of war; and, could you but be before the enemy at Landshut, you would find advantageous camps among the mountains to cover Silesia.

The first thing you ought to observe is that, should you be obliged to retreat through Lusatia, you will be constrained, should Nadaſti follow you with his cavalry, to oppose a corps to him which you must leave at Zittau, that you may prevent invasions; should this happen, I will relieve these troops, and will also send you a reinforcement, as powerful as I possibly can.

I am, &c.

E 2

L E T-

L E T T E R XIII.

From the Prince of Prussia.

In Answer to No. XII.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Leipa,
July 8, 1757.

THE hussar safely brought me the letter of the 7th.

To maintain an intercourse with the governors of the fortresses of Silesia will be difficult, because all communication is intercepted by the numerous light troops of the enemy. I will however do all I can.

I earnestly request you would send me your positive orders how you wish me to act. Am I to cover Silesia, or to remain in Bohemia to protect the town of Zittau, as long as I have any forage? If you fear an irruption into Silesia, and think it necessary I should march thither, I believe it will be difficult, and even impossible, to take any road except that of Zittau, because of the quantity of baggage which must be sent forward, and loaded with necessaries. Bread must beside be taken from the magazine of Zittau, and we must wait there till the waggons shall be loaded. Fifteen battalions at least, such as they
at

at present are, will be requisite to cover Zittau in case I should pass into Silesia, for the corps under Nadaſti is supposed to be ten thousand strong.

General Brandeis has written to me from Gabel, where he arrived on the 7th with the first waggons. I have detached colonel Croce, with two battalions of infantry, and with hussars and dragoons, to facilitate his march.

We have not the least intelligence of the army of Daun; our whole camp is surrounded by small parties of the enemy's hussars, but they dare not leave the woods.

A man, who is come from Goerlitz, reports that a corps of the enemy is encamped to the south of that place; of this I will endeavour to gain information.

I have not received any news, to-day, from general Winterfeld. His purpose was to be this day at Georgenthal, where I believe him to be, and that the report he sent has been intercepted.

General Goltz has assured me that we cannot begin our march till the 14th, because flour will not arrive sooner than to-morrow, and that we must have bread for six days.

General Winterfeld is just returned; he has left two battalions at Reichstadt. He only saw four hundred pandours, and some hussars, who

retired immediately. The road of Zittau is, at present, rendered safe by the garrison of Reichstadt, and I believe general Brandeis will arrive at the camp to-morrow.

General Goltz has informed me it is absolutely necessary to give commands that the waggons of Silesia, which have brought the flour, should be returned, for that the consumption of bread and forage would otherwise be too great. I have followed his advice, and given orders accordingly.

General Winterfeld tells me he has been informed that only six hundred horse are marching toward Silesia; but he hopes to gain more certain intelligence of the enemy's designs, having received a very artful spy.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XIV.

From the Prince of Prussia.

In Answer to the first Letter of the King, dated July 7.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Leipa,
July 10, 1757.

THE hussar, that I yesterday sent to Leutmeritz, with the second letter, not having been

been able to pass, is fortunately returned this morning. I hope my present messenger will be more successful, and I have entrusted him with both my letters.

General Brandeis safely arrived yesterday, with all the waggons, by which we have obtained bread for ten days, and pay for two months. He has brought the augmentation.

Two hundred and thirteen men are lost to the infantry by desertion. The posts of Reichstadt and Gabel being occupied, the convoy was able to pass in security. Some hussars and pandours shewed themselves to the rear-guard, but were repulsed by a cannon shot.

An Austrian trumpet arrived yesterday, with a letter from general Morotz, whose quarters are at Nîmes. His corps must be about five or six thousand strong, and is composed of hussars and pandours.

I shall to-morrow send back the empty waggons general Brandeis has brought, which shall be escorted by two battalions. These battalions will remain at Zittau, to cover the convoys whenever we shall have occasion to send for flour to that place.

I remit you the report of a deserter and of another man; for, though I place little faith in

E 4 ; them,

them, I thought it my duty not to fail to inform you of what they relate.

I will not without orders, or important reasons, quit this camp. I never imagined that, passing with the army through Zittau into Lusatia, I should make any long stay there, but was persuaded I should march through Lusatia into Silesia, to cover the frontiers. Being ignorant of all your intentions, I imagine I have done well to reconnoitre the roads of Zittau, and to place garrisons in the towns which cover that road. Colonel le Noble, supported by a hundred hussars, means to-night to attack a corps of pandours; he is gone to reconnoitre the roads of the wood, and imagines he shall cut them off.

An Austrian trumpet is arrived, with a letter from marshal Daun, dated at Munchengraetz on the 7th. With him has been sent me a servant, who had robbed his master, captain Bos of Itzenblitz. I examined the latter, and I add his account.

LETTER XV.

From the Prince of Prussia.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Leipa,
July 11, 1757.

WE have sent an Austrian trumpet, to-day, to Leutmeritz, with letters for general Retzau, and have sent with him a trumpet of our own, for his security, who bears letters from us. We hope the advanced posts of the enemy will suffer him to pass.

Our attempt has succeeded, and our trumpeter is just returned, with a letter. I most humbly entreat you would honour me with your commands respecting the present state of affairs, which is this.

All reports agree that the grand combined army has passed the Iser near Munchengraetz, and is marching to encamp at Nimes, where general Morotz at present is. By this motion it will approach the road of Zittau, passing through Gabel, and Reichstadt. Should the enemy there pitch his camp, he may arrive at Zittau as soon as we can; and, should we intend to march thither, the shortest road we can take, though

though sufficiently impracticable, will be that of Georgenthal, if we do not with the enemy to take us in flank.

I here add the relation of an Austrian deserter and of a woman, together with the report of major Belling at Gabel. General Winterfeld has endeavoured to learn what he could from the Austrian trumpet, that arrived here yesterday, but all he could learn was that general Keil has been detached with fifteen thousand men.

I once again request you would do me the favour to send me positive orders how to act. I must further add, we have bread only sufficient for ten days, and that the transport of flour which general Brandeis has taken to Zittau will but be enough for three weeks.

I shall cause the camp which I have been advised to occupy, in case Daun should fix his at Nimes, to be reconnoitred. According to this our right wing should extend to Brins, we shall have Walten in front, and our left will be on the side of Gabel, by which the road of Zittau will be covered.

Our greatest want is meat; the regiments are not all provided with oxen, and the country people cannot send in sufficient supplies, because of the impediments afforded by the hussars and
pandours,

pandours. Le Noble has set fire to some pandour barracks, and has taken their cloaks.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XVI.

From the King.*

MY DEAR BROTHER, Leutmeritz, July 8, 1757.

I BEG you to keep carefully on your guard, and not to divulge what I am now going to write, which is of the utmost consequence.

You need entertain no fears for Schweidnitz, which place is well provided, and cannot easily be taken, unless by a formal siege.

The first thing you have to do is to join general Brandeis with the military chest, the seven hundred waggons of flour, and the augmentation, and immediately to send back the waggons unloaded.

Here follows what the enemy may do—

1. He may form projects on Silesia. I perceive that at present he has no such thoughts,

* Though the date of this letter be previous to those of the two last, it is inserted at this place, that the connection of the former might not be interrupted.

and

and that his only purpose is to drive us out of Bohemia. Therefore when we shall retire into Saxony, which we ought to do this day six weeks, and when the enemy shall have made every effort to penetrate into Lusatia, and send a corps toward Cotta, you are not ignorant of what my opinion is relative to Silesia, as well as Lusatia. I have certain information that he has detached three regiments to Nuremberg. The army of the Empire cannot begin its march before the middle of the month of August*.

* * * * *

You will do the same in Lusatia; but, as we are not able to act offensively on two sides, you must think of fortifying your camps, while I shall make my expeditions. I will afterward send you succour; or I will do the same, and you shall act offensively. Should this happen, I most sincerely advise you to make your attacks with one wing.

That your officers may soon be taught these manœuvres, you must be quick to incorporate

* A passage is omitted, which relates only to camp manœuvres to be made in Saxony; which omission was made because the Letters appeared during the campaign, which this passage might have injured. Beside that it had no relation to the manœuvres of the army in Bohemia.

the

the battalions of Kahlenberg, and of Baer, with the ruined battalions. The regiments of Mannheim and of Wiedersheim should be united with those of Bevern, of prince Henry, of Munchaw, of Schultz, and of Weid. The generals, to render them complete, may select the best officers. The other officers, general Wiedershim, and those who lose their companies, shall be paid from my chest; provided with this succour you may return to the camp of Neuschloß. This march in advance will be of no ill consequence.

L E T T E R XVII.

From the Prince of Prussia.

In Answer to the preceding Letter.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Leipa,
July 12, 1757.

I YESTERDAY evening received your letter of the 8th; you may be assured I shall not abuse the confidence you place in me, and that I shall inviolably observe secrecy in every thing that relates to what you have told me in your last letter.

You wish me sincerely, and without disguise, to inform you what are my thoughts on the present state of affairs.

You cannot but know that general Brandeis has fortunately joined us, and that he has left flour at Zittau, sufficient for about a month. The roads of Zittau are very impracticable. Should we wish to procure bread for ten days, we must send five hundred and fifty waggons for flour, with an escort in proportion to the force of the enemy. In the camp where we at present are, keeping Gabel and Reichstadt; the convoy may pass and repass in full security, because we are able to support these two posts. Should a corps of the enemy encamp at Nimes, we can send some battalions to encamp at Gabel; and, in case I should think proper to pitch a camp toward the low lands, I pledge myself that the enemy cannot afford me any impediment. But I cannot pledge myself that the roads of Zittau will remain open; and, should the enemy take but one convoy of flour, we should want bread, which would be followed with serious consequences.

According to the advice we receive, the enemy is encamped between Liebenau and Swigau, the corps of Nadafti is in front of the camp, and the corps of Morotz near Nimes, so as to form the vanguard of Nadafti.

It appears to me that the greatest injury the enemy can do us will be to take our magazine.

That

That of Silesia is protected by the fortress of Schweidnitz. There remains, therefore, that of Zittau, which should be carefully watched. If I remain with the army where I am, the Austrians will not dare undertake any thing against it, because I can arrive at Zittau as soon as they, and perhaps sooner; but, if I am to advance with the army, it is in the enemy's power to march forward with a heavy corps, and to cover that corps with the army.

The want of forage will induce me to quit this camp in about eight days. I leave it, therefore, to your consideration whether it be better for me to advance, or to form a camp, with the fear however of losing the communication with the town of Zittau; or whether it is your will that I should enter the camp of Gabel, which is not far distant, and where I may cover Zittau.

The light troops of the enemy are rarely seen; the greatest mischief they can do us will be to impede our convoys. Most of the regiments want oxen, which general Goltz has used every effort to procure by contribution, and these contributions have been little respected.

The incorporating of the regiments perhaps ought not to be effected till the troops shall be in garrison; for, were it done in the field, it is much to be feared many of the soldiers would desert,

desert, before they would be known by their officers.

For this I wait your orders, which I shall in all things obey.

I have examined the augmentation of the regiments; the men are proper for service, and tolerably disciplined. Most of the horses are young, those of the regiments of Kiow and Stechow are in the best condition possible. The regiment of Wurtemberg is in a very ill condition. Major Dalwitz is absent, and wounded; for which reason his regiment is without a head, without a commanding officer, and did not, therefore, perform the service that might have been expected, at the beginning of the campaign.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XVIII.

From the King.

In Answer to the foregoing.

MY DEAR BROTHER, Leutmeritz, July 14, 1757.

I HAVE received your letter of the 12th. Should you once retreat, you will in a month be repulsed to Berlin; the enemy does but follow you.

If

If you want oxen, send into Lusatia for them. Should you retreat, your forage will fail, and the — will certainly take you in flank.

Nadaſti is encamped at Gaſtorf, and Daun at Nimes; we heard him beat the march.

I perceive you place too much confidence in the intelligence brought you, and that objects are magnified. You have provision waggons which may bring you as much flour as you want. The thing most proper, and most convenient, is to detach a corps of five or six thousand men to Schweidnitz, to cover the frontiers against the incursions of Keil. I shall regulate my conduct according to the information which you shall send me on this subject.

The incorporation of the Saxon regiments must be made at the same time. Major Dalwitz is ill at Dresden. I will induce him to return to his regiment. Colonel Putkammer however must take care of the regiment, as of his own.

All the enemies we find here consist only of two regiments of hussars, two of cuirassiers, and four of Saxon dragoons, six battalions of Hungarian infantry, and about three thousand pandours.

Laudon is at the Paſcapol with fifteen hundred hussars and pandours, and between seven and eight hundred are sometimes at Graupen,

Zinwalde, and Offegg, and others at Marienschein, and Schneeberg. Deduct all these from the corps which are said to be opposing you, and you will perceive that the number of troops, that surround you, has been exaggerated.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XIX.

From the King.*

MY DEAR BROTHER, Leutmeritz, July 10, 1757.

EVER since yesterday evening, we have had a heavy corps facing us, which encamps between Wegstadt and Schurzan. I cannot inform you whether it be or be not the whole army. They have detached a strong corps toward Auch, which I believe to be four thousand strong; they mean some attempt against Tettschen, as far as I can judge; you are at hand, and can detach a corps on the rear, which I cannot do from this place. It will therefore be proper immediately to send a corps of seven or eight thousand men, to impede the projects of the enemy.

I am, &c.

* This letter, the date of which likewise precedes that of the last, is here inserted, because it was necessary the several foregoing answers should be together.

L E T -

L E T T E R XX.

From the Prince of Prussia.

In Answer to the preceding.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Leipa,
July 13, 1757.

THE chasseur safely arrived, to-night, with the letter of the 10th.

General Winterfeld will march with seven battalions of dragoons, and ten squadrons of hussars, as soon as the bread shall be baked. The roads of Budissin are said to be very bad, and that artillery cannot pass them. General Winterfeld will, therefore, march to Kamnitz, and imagines he can be before the corps which, according to his spies, mean to attack Tetschen and Pirna.

I have just received a letter from general Kreutz, and another from the minister, Schlaberndorf, which inform me that the enemy has taken Landshut. General Kreutz tells me that he retired, with the battalion, to Schweidnitz. I am ignorant of the force of the enemy. The general refers to the letter which he wrote to me, but which I have never received.

The waggons, escorted by two battalions, will go to-morrow to Zittau, for flour for nine days.

Should you command me to march, I must have thirty-six hours notice, that I may send the waggons forward. I have still thirty-three battalions, thirty-five squadrons, and fifteen squadrons of hussars remaining with me.

I have had no news of the enemy. We shall change our camp this afternoon, that we may stop up the opening, and not occupy too much ground.

A trumpet that we sent off to-day, with the baggage of general Treskow and other officers that are prisoners, who requested it should be sent, is just returned. His reception was signed by général Haddick, and dated at Neuschloß.

I am, &c.

L E T T E R XXI.

From the King.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The camp of Leips,
July 13, 1757*.

TO enable you to form a judgment of what is necessary for us both to do, it will be proper for me to describe our present situation.

You have marshal Daun to oppose, and I

* This letter was not delivered to me till the 22d.

Nadaſti.

Nadaſti. Morotz may take you in flank. If Keil be detached he will probably march to Landſhut.

The Swedes are aſſembling a corps of ſeven-teen thouſand men near Stralfund. The French have entered the country of Heſſe. I am informed that eight thouſand of their troops have paſſed the Weſer, that theſe are to be followed by eight thouſand more ; theſe ſixteen thouſand men, if I do not miſtake, will join the troops of the Empire, to begin their operations in the country of Halberſtadt and Magdeburg.

This, undoubtedly, is no good news, but it is neceſſary for us to execute well what I am going to ſay.

For our part, it is requiſite you ſhould cover Luſatia ; for, ſhould you fail ſo to do, a ſwarm of light troops will march through Sileſia, and carry fire and ſword to the gates of Berlin, be- cauſe I ſhall not be able to ſend ſuccour in time. I ſhall beware of giving you orders for the execution of this plan ; the thing is difficult, conſult your beſt-informed generals, and always chooſe the moſt probable means, according to circumſtances. I ſhall give you no precise rules, either relative to the poſts you have to aſſume, or the marches you have to make.

My purpoſe will be to keep the Saxon hills,

and cover my magazine, that the Elbe may be free, and that I may oppose the incursions of the French.

With respect to Pomerania, I shall send a reinforcement of five thousand men to the garrison of Stettin. You ought to order the regiment of Bevern to march to Stettin, with all speed. I will at the same time send the regiment of prince Maurice thither.

To this I add the news, I have just received, that the French have taken the town of Embden, and marshal Lehwald informs me that he is in momentary expectation of the reduction of Memel, because the Russians besiege that place. Apraxin is entrenched near Kauen; the fleet and the gallies mean to attack the coast.

Well may this make your courage droop, yet is it now necessary that we should redouble our efforts. My opinion is that we must wait the issue of a decisive battle, which one or the other party must attempt. Should not this happen, our two armies will be lost before the close of the campaign. You have no doubt seen, in my last letter, the manner in which I desire the regiments to be incorporated. You have the regiments of Mansheim, and of Widersheim, and the battalion of Kahlenberg grenadiers, and those of Baer and Diezelsky, at your disposal. I

allow you to permit the officers to select, from the Saxon regiments, the best ensigns and serjeants, for their own.

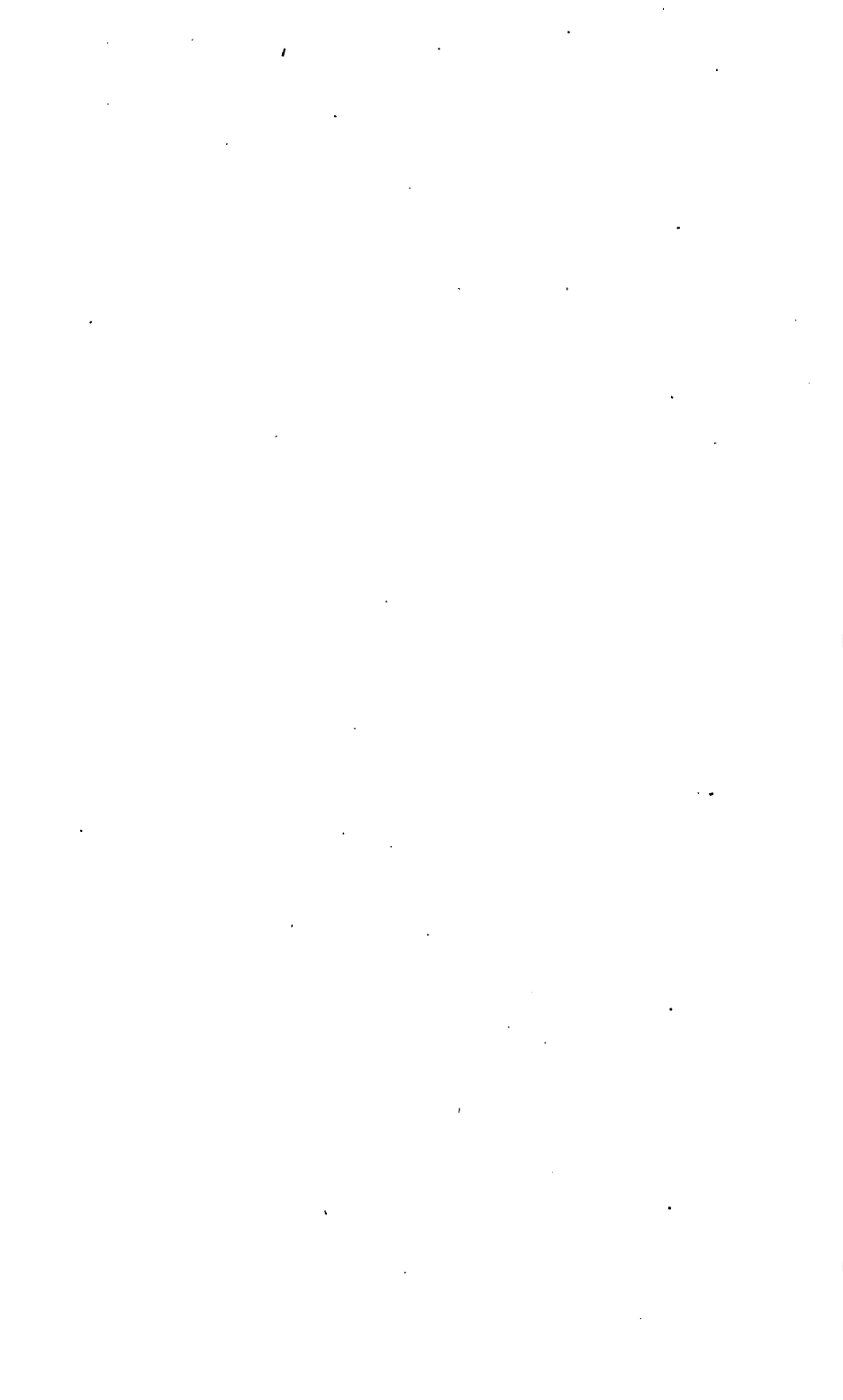
Should marshal Daun encamp opposite me, with the whole army, you may detach from eight to ten battalions with their hussars into Silesia, to cover the mountains, but especially the town of Schweidnitz. In case of need, flour for a month may be sent for, to the magazine at Dresden. You have a sufficient supply, from this time till the 12th of August; and you may be supplied with more, till the 12th of September.

Successive marches, in retreat, conduce to no good; you will always be in want of forage, bread, and other provisions, and will lose as many men by desertion as if you had given battle to the enemy. Under circumstances so desperate as ours, desperate measures should be chosen.

Note written in the margin, in the hand-writing of the king.

You must continually turn to face the grand army. Should it detach a corps to enter Silesia, do the same; and, should the army itself march toward Silesia, and leave a corps in Lusatia, imitate this conduct.

*End of the Correspondence between FREDERIC II. and
AUGUSTUS WILLIAM, Prince of Prussia.*



L E T T E R S

BETWEEN

F R E D E R I C II.

AND

G E N E R A L F O U Q U E T.



L E T T E R S

BETWEEN

F R E D E R I C II.

AND

G E N E R A L F O U Q U E T.

L E T T E R I.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Breslau, December 23, 1758.

I SEND you the widow's mite ; receive it as willingly as it has been bestowed. The succour is but small, yet such perhaps as you may stand in much need of, during these calamitous times.

I at the same time send you some reflections, which are all the fruit I have gathered from my last campaign.

According to appearances, our winter quarters will be left in peace. The enemy affords

no

no sign of an intention to trouble us ; but I do not think it will be the same with prince Ferdinand.

Leave we the veil however over futurity, by which it is the intention of Providence it should be concealed, and let us speak of the present.

Remain persuaded of the friendship and esteem which I shall preserve for you to the end of my life.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

REFLECTIONS on Changes necessary to be introduced in the Manner of making War.*

OF what good is life, if we live but to vegetate ? Of what use is observation, if it be but to crowd the memory with facts ? In a word, of what utility is experience, if not guided by reflection ?

Vegetius says that war ought to be a study, and peace an exercise ; and rightly has he said.

Thought, or, better to explain myself, the faculty of combining ideas, is what distinguishes man from beasts of burden. A mule, though he

* These are the reflections which the king mentions in the foregoing letter. T.

should

should have made ten campaigns under prince Eugene, would not have improved in his tactics. And to the shame of humanity it must be confessed that, with respect to this kind of indolent stupidity, many old officers are not superior to such a mule. To follow the routine of service, to be busied concerning food and clothing, to eat when others eat, to fight when others fight, are the whole warlike deeds of the majority, and constitute what is called having seen service, and grown grey in arms.

This is the reason that so many soldiers remain in a state of mediocrity. They neither know nor trouble themselves to enquire into the causes of their victories, or their defeats; although such causes are themselves exceedingly real.

That severe critic, the judicious and rigid Feuquières, has shewn us, by the censures he has passed on the military men of his time, the road we ought to take, to gain instruction. The art of war is refined, since the age in which he lived; new modes, and the price of blood, have rendered it more difficult. To observe and to enquire into these changes is but proper; in order that, having well examined the system of our enemies, and the difficulties which present themselves,

selves, we may choose the best means by which they may be surmounted.

I shall not detain you with any of the projects of our opponents, founded as they are on the number and the power of their allies, the multitude of whom ought to crush not only Prussia, but every prince who should dare resistance. Nor is it necessary to make you remark the maxim they have generally adopted, to attract our forces on one side by diversions, that they may strike some grand stroke, in the place where they themselves are, without meeting with any resistance. Neither shall I call to your mind their rule of keeping on the defensive, in presence of a corps which is strong enough to make head against them; and to act with vigour against him who, from weakness, is obliged to cede.

I will in like manner forbear to remind you of the method I have followed, to support myself against the Colossus that threatened my ruin. This method, which is only become good by the errors of my enemies, by their slowness, which has seconded my activity, and by their indolence, which never knew how to take advantage when opportunity might offer, must not be proposed as a model of imitation.

The imperious law of necessity has obliged
me

me to commit much to chance. The conduct of a pilot, who necessarily commits the vessel to be the sport of winds and waves, unable to guide it according to the indications of the compass, never can serve as a rule.

Our design, at present, is to form a just idea of the systems which the Austrians have followed during the war.

I fix my attention on them as on those of our enemies who have attained most art, and perfection, in the trade. I pass over the French in silence, though their knowledge be extensive, because their inconsistency, and levity of mind, overturn, from day to day, such advantages as their abilities may have procured. With respect to the Russians, they are equally ferocious and ignorant, nor do they deserve to be mentioned.

The principal changes which I have remarked in the conduct of the Austrian generals, during the war, consists in their encampments, their marches, and that prodigious train of artillery which, being played, even were it not supported by an army, would be almost sufficient to destroy the foe, who should advance to an attack.

Good camps have been chosen in former wars; witness those of Friburg and Nordlingen, which M. de Mercy occupied; witness a camp which prince Eugene assumed, if I do not
mistake,

mistake, on the Adige, or on the Tesin, where he kept the French army at bay, under the command of M. de Villeroi; witness the famous camp of Heilbron; that of Sierk, on the Moselle; and others, which I have no need to cite.

But let us examine whether generals ever before collected so formidable a train of artillery, as that which is at present employed by the Austrians.

Where were ever seen four hundred pieces of ordnance, ranged on the high grounds, with the double advantage of a distant and a rasant (or sweeping) fire?

An Austrian camp presents a formidable front, and numerous ambuscades in its rear. True it is, the great superiority of their numbers, which permits them to form in several lines without fear of being outwinged, affords them an easy opportunity of supplying every want, for they have troops enough.

If we here enter into more minute enquiries, we shall discover that the principles on which the Austrian generals make war are deduced from long meditation.

You will perceive much art in their tactics; extreme circumspection in the choice of their camps; a great knowledge of their ground;

their manœuvres supported; and that degree of prudence which undertakes nothing but with as great a certainty of success as war will permit men to acquire.

Never to suffer ourselves to be obliged to fight, is the first maxim of every general, and of which their system is a consequence. Hence their search after strong camps, on heights, or on mountains. In other respects, the Austrians have nothing peculiar to themselves, in their choice of posts; except that we seldom, if ever, find them in a bad station, and that they pay particular attention continually to post themselves on ground where they cannot be attacked.

Their flanks are constantly supported by ravines, precipices, marshes, rivers, or towns. But the particular in which they most distinguish themselves, from their predecessors, is the orders they issue to their troops, to profit by every advantage of ground. They pay extreme attention to place each part of the army where it can act most effectually.

To so much art they add stratagem; and often present bodies of horse, to induce the general who opposes them to make false dispositions. I however have perceived, on more than one occasion, that whenever they form their cavalry

in one contiguous line they have no intention to bring it into action; and that they only mean to use it effectually, when it is in a chequer form.

Remark further that, when you order their cavalry to be attacked, at the beginning of the battle, yours will certainly be victorious; but, if you pursue only to the shortest distance, you will fall into an ambuscade of infantry, where your men will be cut off. Hence it follows that, when you attack this enemy in a post, you must refuse engaging his cavalry, at the commencement of the action; and, if possible, place your own horse beyond the reach of the Austrian artillery, that you may employ it, according to circumstances, either to renew the combat, or, by vigorous pursuit, to profit by victory.

During the present war, the Austrian army has continually been encamped in three lines, supported by that prodigious train of artillery of which I have spoken.

The first line is formed on the declivity of the hills, where the ground is less rugged, and the descent gentle, in the form of a glacié, on the side where the enemy may attack. This method is good, and is the fruit of experience, which demonstrates that a rasant fire is more destructive than a descending fire. The soldier beside,
standing

standing aloof on this kind of glacis, has every advantage of superior height, without its inconveniences ; the foe who attacks is uncovered, and cannot injure him by his fire ; whereas the defendant may cut off his enemy before he can approach further. Should the infantry force the assailant to retreat, it may profit by its advantage, being aided and seconded by situation.

Whereas, should the defendant be placed on ground too high, or too steep, the troops will not dare to descend, lest they should be broken ; their fire from such a height would not every where annoy the assailant ; and, making a hasty march, the latter would soon find himself under the protection of his artillery, and his small arms.

The Austrians in like manner preserve this amphitheatrical position in their second line, interlined with batteries like the first, where they station bodies of horse, which are placed there for its support.

Should the assailants fall back, the cavalry is ready to charge. If, on the contrary, the first line should be forced, the advancing enemy finds, after a severe conflict with the infantry, another tolerable post, which must be attacked anew. The assailant is disordered by the pre-

ceding charge, yet is obliged to march to meet fresh troops, well posted, and seconded by the nature of the ground.

The third line, which at the same time serves them as a reserve, is destined to reinforce the posts to which the assailant proposes to penetrate.

The Austrian flanks are garnished with cannon, like a citadel. They profit by every projection of the ground, there to range artillery, so placed as to increase their cross firing; so that the attack of an army, with the ground on which it is stationed thus prepared, is equal to the attack of a fortress, the works of which are not ruined.

Not satisfied with all these precautions, the Austrians still endeavour to cover their front by marshes, hollow ways deep and impracticable, and rivulets; in a word, by defiles.

Nay, not absolutely confiding in those supports which they have placed on their flanks, they have heavy detachments, on their right and on their left, which encamp at the distance of about two miles from their wings, in places which cannot be approached. Their duty is to observe the enemy; and, should he inconsiderately attack them, the grand army
may

may fall on him in flank and rear, and derange his measures so as to oblige him to retreat, after a first fruitless attempt.

But, it will be asked, how may men so well prepared be brought to action? Are these troops, that have so often been vanquished, become invincible? Certainly no; this I will never allow. I would not however advise any person to form a hasty resolution, and march to insult an army which has had the precaution to possess itself of so many advantages.

But, as it is finally impossible, during a whole campaign, that the ground should every where be equally advantageous, and that those whose office it is to choose posts should not be guilty of some mistakes, I very much approve that such occasions should be seized, without any regard to numbers, provided there be but more than half the quantity of men possessed by the enemy.

With respect to the mistakes that may be committed, and profited by, they are such as these. The foe may leave some heights, in the front, or on the side of his camp, unoccupied; his flank may not be well supported; he may place his cavalry in his first line; or he may detach one of the corps, which hover on his wings, too far from the main army; the heights

on which he may take post may not be sufficiently considerable; and especially there may be no defile to intercept the march of the assailant; in which case I should propose immediately to seize on such heights, and to place as much artillery on them as they can contain.

I have on more than one occasion observed that the Austrians, both cavalry and infantry, will not stand the fire of artillery. But either considerable heights or a plain are necessary, advantageously to profit by the cannon, which, as well as the musketry, produce no effect when fired upward. And to attack an enemy without the advantage of fire is to attempt to fight against arms with clubs. Success therefore would be impossible.

I return to the attack. My advice is that a point should be proposed from which to make a powerful effort, and to form several lines which shall afford each other mutual support, it being probable that the first assailants may meet repulse. I am not absolutely of opinion that general attacks ought to be made, because they are too dangerous: whereas, when only one wing, or one section, of an army is engaged, if it be defeated, the main body remains to cover a retreat, and thus no total defeat can be the result.

It

It must further be considered that, when you only attack a part of the enemy's army, your loss of men never can be so great as when the battle becomes general; and that, should you succeed, you may equally destroy your foe, if he have not any defile too near the field of battle; nor any detachments from his main army, ready to cover his retreat.

It seems to me that, with that part of your troops which you refuse to the enemy, you may parade, and by making incessant manœuvres oblige him not to quit his post, to march to the support of the troops against whom your effort is made; by which means that part of his army which you thus keep in check will become useless.

It perhaps may happen that the enemy may enfeeble himself, on one side, by marching to the succour of another. When you perceive such a manœuvre soon enough, if you have sufficient force, you ought to profit by the moment.

Neither let us blush to imitate whatever we can discover of excellent, in the method of our enemies.

The Romans, by adopting the advantageous arms of the nations against whom they fought, rendered their troops invincible.

This rule established, we certainly ought to adopt the Austrian manner of encampment; in all cases satisfying ourselves with a more contracted front, that we may gain in depth, and taking great care to station and to secure the wings well.

However embarrassing it may be, we must conform to the system of a heavy train of artillery. I have caused ours to be very considerably augmented, and it will supply the defects of our infantry, which cannot but degenerate, in proportion as the war becomes more tedious, and more bloody. Thus, to take measures with more judgment, and attention, than they have formerly been taken, is to conform to the old principle of the military art, of never being obliged to fight, contrary to our own inclination.

So many difficulties in the attack of the enemy, in his post, gave birth to the idea of attacking him on his march, of profiting by his decampments, and of engaging his rear-guard; according to the example of the affair of Leuse, or that of Senef.

But for this the Austrians have in like manner made provision, by only carrying the war into hilly and uneven countries; and by previously preparing roads, either through forests or marshy lands; or by following the windings
of

of the valleys, behind the mountains, which they take care first to garnish with strong detachments. Their numerous light troops then march, and take post in the woods, or on the summits of these mountains, and thus cover the march of the army, mask its motions, and procure it entire safety, till a new camp be attained, equally advantageous with the one quitted, and in which the foe cannot be attacked, without imprudence.

I ought, on this occasion, to induce you to remark that one of the means, employed by our enemies, is previously to cause the ground they mean to occupy to be examined, by their field engineers, who take its heights, and survey it; nor is the ground chosen, and its defence regulated, till after mature deliberation.

The Austrians make many and strong detachments; those that are most feeble do not consist of less than three thousand men. I have sometimes enumerated five or six detachments, which have all at once been in the field.

The number of their Hungarian troops is considerable; if they happen to be collected they can form a distinct corps. So that you have two armies to combat; consisting of the heavy troops and the light.

The officers employed in the command of
their

their detachments are of consummate experience; especially in the knowledge of the ground.

They often encamp near our armies; but with the very useful circumspection of posting themselves on the tops of mountains, in thick forests, or behind double and triple defiles.

From such kind of dens they send parties, which act according to circumstances; and the corps does not shew itself unless an opportunity offers to attempt something of moment. It is the strength of these detachments which allows them to approach so near our armies, and even to surround them; and it is exceedingly vexatious not to have an equal number of such kind of troops.

Our free battalions, formed of deserters, ill composed and weak, generally dare not face them. Our generals fear to venture too far, lest they should lose their troops; and thus the foe finds occasion to approach our camps, to disturb us, and both night and day to excite alarms.

Our officers, at length became familiarized with such attempts, began to despise them, and unfortunately contracted a habit of security which became fatal to us at Hochkirchen, where most of them supposed the attack, which the whole

whole army of the Austrians made on our right, to be nothing more than a skirmish of light and irregular troops.

Not to conceal any thing from you, I cannot however but think marshal Daun might still make a better use of his Hungarian army, which does not do us all the injury it might.

Why have not these detached generals made any attempt against our foragers? Why have they not attacked the ill-fortified places in which we have deposited our provisions? Why have they not on all occasions endeavoured to intercept our convoys? Why, instead of alarming our camps, nightly, by feeble detachments, have they not attacked them in full force, and attacked our second line in the rear? These would have led them to objects of very different importance, and such as are decisive in war.

The Austrians no doubt, like us, are in want of bold and capacious officers, who alone however, among a horde of armed and timid men, deserve to obtain the rank of general.

I have in a few words stated my ideas, concerning the principles on which the Austrians make war, at present. They have greatly improved the art, but not so as to prevent others from assuming an entire superiority over them : the very art which they employ, with so much

ability, for self defence, furnishes us with the means of attack.

I have ventured some opinions, on the manner of engaging with them in battle ; but I have two things to add, which I believe I have omitted.

The first is to support the corps that attacks, otherwise it will be taken in flank ; whereas it is principally destined to flank the enemy.

The second is the great attention which the leaders of the forces ought to pay, that the men should not leave their ranks, especially when they repulse the enemy ; for, under such circumstances, a feeble body of horse which should fall on them, and find them in disorder, would be capable of effecting their destruction. But, let a general take what precautions he please, he still has many risks to run, in the attack of difficult posts, and in battle always.

The best infantry in the world may be repulsed, and beaten, in places where it has to combat against ground, enemies, and artillery.

Ours, which is at present bastardized, by too frequent losses, ought not to be employed in difficult enterprizes. Its intrinsic valour is not comparable to what it was ; and to venture it in attacks which demand constancy, and unshaken fortitude, would be to put it to trials too severe.

The

The fate of a kingdom often depends on a decisive battle : for which reason a general ought to engage, if he discover advantages ; and ought to avoid fighting, if the danger be superior to the good that can be hoped.

There are more ways than one which all lead to the same conclusion. We ought to apply ourselves, if I do not mistake, to destroy the enemy in detail. Of what consequence are the means we employ, provided we do but gain the superiority ?

The enemy makes a number of detachments, the generals of which are not all equally prudent and circumspect. We should endeavour to ruin these detachments, one after the other. Such expeditions ought not to be treated as trifles. The commander should march in full force ; the shoulder should be fet to the wheel ; and these skirmishes ought to be treated as seriously as if a decisive battle were in question. The advantage that would accrue, by twice successfully cutting off these distinct corps, would be, the enemy would be obliged to defend them ; his circumspection would induce him to keep collected, and opportunities might be afforded of attacking the grand army with success.

Other ideas present themselves likewise to my mind, which I scarcely dare propose under our
present

present circumstances, when, overwhelmed by the weight of all Europe, and obliged to speed post haste with armies, that we may arrive soon enough to defend this frontier, or fly to the aid of that province; we, instead of prescribing to, are obliged to receive laws from our enemies, and to regulate our motions by their projects.

As violent situations however are not of long duration, and as a single accident may lead to great changes in affairs, I think it necessary to discover my thoughts to you, concerning the seat of the war. While we are unable to draw the enemy into the plains, we cannot flatter ourselves that we shall acquire any great advantages over him; but as soon as we can deprive him of his hills, his forests, and his uneven ground, which so well serve his purposes, his troops will not be able to resist ours.

But where, say you, shall we find these plains? Are they in Moravia, in Bohemia, at Goerlitz, at Zittau, or at Freiberg?

I answer no; but such ground may be met with in lower Silesia; and the insatiable ardour with which the court of Vienna desires the recovery of that duchy will induce it, soon or late, to send armies thither. Obligated to quit their posts, the strength of their heavy ordnance, and the awful display of their artillery, will

will then be reduced to things of small importance.

Should therefore the Austrians, at the beginning of a campaign, enter the plain, their rashness might draw on their ruin ; and, from that moment, all the operations of the Prussian armies, whether in Bohemia or in Moravia, would succeed without difficulty.

You will tell me that to draw the enemy into our own country is but a melancholy expedient. I allow it is so ; yet is it the only one that remains, since it has not pleased nature to form plains in Bohemia and Moravia, but to load them with woods and mountains. We therefore have only to choose this advantageous ground, without troubling ourselves with any thing further.

When I praise the tactics of the Austrians, I cannot but blame their plans of campaign, and their conduct in the grand parts of the war. With forces so superior, and allies so numerous, as are at the disposal of the court of Vienna, that court cannot be excused in acquiring such trifling advantages.

I cannot sufficiently express my astonishment at the want of plan between the operations of so many armies, which must crush the whole Prussian power, did they make one general effort.

effort. How slow are they in the execution of their projects! How many opportunities do they not suffer to escape! In a word, how many enormous faults do they not commit, to which we have hitherto been indebted for our safety!

Such is the fruit I have gathered from this campaign. The strong impression these images have made on my mind has supplied the reflections I here communicate. I shall think the time I have bestowed in collecting these remarks well employed, if you will meditate on them yourself, and impart your ideas to me, which are of more worth than my own.

FREDERIC.

Breslau, December 21, 1758.

L E T T E R II.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Leobschütz, January 2, 1759.

RECOLLECT the benefits you have bestowed; remember you have enriched me beyond my wishes. Yet, in addition to such numerous favours, you now send me a present of two thousand crowns. For these I return you my most humble thanks, and will endeavour to
employ

employ them in the best manner for your majesty's service.

From these traits of generosity I imagine your majesty's treasures are inexhaustible. So much the better; I congratulate you, and am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R III.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Leobschütz, January 2, 1759.

IT is astonishing, and even supernatural, to behold your majesty equal to labours so various, and which are all infinitely complex. You are the only man on earth capable of such exertions.

It cannot be denied that the affairs of the war are the most pressing, and the most necessary; and, from the reflections which your majesty has made on this important subject, I perceive you have thought on it profoundly.

No one is more capable than your majesty of deep meditation. Your ideas are the acquired fruits of your great experience. No man has supported wars comparable to those which you have made; history affords no equal example;

VOL. XIII.

H

and,

and, though during the last campaign you made no conquests, the memorable deeds by which it is characterised, the activity you displayed, and the courage with which you made head against and repulsed the most formidable powers of Europe, will ever immortalize you, and give you precedence over all heroes, ancient and modern.

Flattery, sire, is no part of my character; the whole world does you this justice.

It seems that, by communicating your reflections on tactics, and on other parts of war, your majesty approves that I should, or rather commands me to, speak my opinion. The master asks instruction from his scholar.

I obey, and flatter myself I run no risk, since the sincerity of my heart is known to you; as are my attachment to your service, and my zeal for your august person.

Should the war continue, it is to be hoped you will not have the same number of enemies to oppose, but that some will quit the party. If not, the natural consequence ought to be that we should fall, overpowered.

The remarks, on which your majesty has employed the most attention, principally relate to three points.

1. The manner of encampment practised by the Austrians.

2. The

2. The attack of their army, on its march.
3. Their heavy train of artillery.

With respect to the first point, which is that of the unapproachable camps of the Austrians, as well in front as in flank, I do not think it would be proper to imitate them, except when the object should be to defend a defile, or the passes of a province; to cover a fortress, or to avoid a battle; that is, supposing our army to be much inferior to theirs: otherwise two armies, having the same end to obtain, would be in danger of passing a campaign without any considerable progress, which does not suit our situation. Neither can this possibly happen; for the enemy will send detachments into this or that part, whence changes in the position of the army will result, such as may give occasion to battles.

I think that a camp having its wings well supported, so as not to be in danger of being turned, and the front of which should be on a declivity, without any real advantage to either party—I think, I say, such a camp is suitable to us. A position like that might induce the Austrians to march to attack us, and make it easy for us to meet them; in this case, we should only have to find camps in which the wings, and the flanks, might be well supported.

H 2

Nothing

Nothing can be more solid, better imagined, or more desirable, than to draw the enemy into the plain.

True it is, the project is impracticable, except by the sacrifice of a great part of your country ; but, on the other side, it might aid our final purpose. In such a case, it would only be necessary to garnish well the frontier places.

I know not whether my conjecture be just ; but, after an examination of the conduct of general Daun, during the last campaign, I doubt whether you will succeed in drawing the old fox from his den, should he be continued in the command of the army. He has formed a system totally opposite to your plan.

The battles of Hohen-Friedberg and of Lissa are continually present to the minds of the Austrians. Should your project take place, two consequences would be the result ; we should yield the precedency to our enemies, and should suffer them to march first ; whereas we have always anticipated them, at the opening of each campaign.

The second point relates to the attack of their army on its march ; but, as your majesty has observed, their marches are so well conducted, and so exactly masked, by the multitude of their
light

light troops, that we can have but little hopes of gaining real advantages, on such occasions.

The same may be said of the attack of their posts, which are equally strong and inapproachable. Such assaults would but be to sacrifice a prodigious number of men, and success would afterward be very uncertain.

If the post be bad, they will forsake it ; as we have seen practised by several of their generals.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, it would be very vexatious should no opportunity present itself, during the whole course of a campaign, in which they might be found at fault.

What relates to the artillery is the third point, and is a capital one, past dispute. Your majesty allows the following facts : that the artillery of the Austrians is much superior to ours ; that it is better served ; and that it carries further, from the goodness of the powder, and the quantity used, in making up the charge for each gun.

The execution of this formidable artillery alone gave occasion to the remarks, which your majesty has made, on the intrinsic valour of our present infantry.

The Romans adopted the well-tempered swords of the Gauls, and subjected their conquerors. Let us, sire, follow their example,

as you have yourself resolved to do; let us oppose artillery to artillery, with an equal proportion of gunners, and you will make the regiments of your army so many sacred Theban legions.

It is nothing but the superiority of that artillery, the effects of which they have felt, that has somewhat occasioned them to relax from their native ardour,

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R IV.

From the King.

Breslau, January 9, 1759.

I AM not so rich as you suppose, my dear friend; but, by the aid of industry and resources, I have collected funds for the next campaign; so that all arrears shall be punctually paid off, at the end of February. I have divided, between you and two other friends, what remained at my own disposal; you may therefore rather compare me to the beggar, Irus, than to the wealthy Cræsus.

I thank you for your answer to the military reflections,

reflections, which I sent you. I am of your opinion; but not a word of all this.

The Turks begin to move; they will not long remain with their arms crossed. The king of Spain is dying.

Thus the cowardly conspirators, who labour to effect my ruin, will find employment.

Should the turbaned gentry turn toward the barbarians*, the whole horde will disappear, and Sweden will consequently give up the game. Should they attack our insolent neighbours (the Austrians) the latter will not be able at once vigorously to oppose me and the circumcised. And, further, should the king of Spain die, war will immediately break out in Italy; and our thoughtless and frantic countrymen will be obliged to quarrel with their insolent and proud tyrants.

All this must not prevent us from forming a plan for present operations. Time must reveal future events, and teach us what measures our enemies will take; we then shall be able to determine how it will be proper to act.

Adieu, my dear friend. I wish you health and prosperity this new year, and embrace you with

* The king called the Russians barbarians, through the whole course of the war, till the death of Elizabeth. T.

all my heart, assuring you of that esteem and tenderness which will end only with life.

FREDERIC,

TOWARD the end of March 1759, general Fouquet, seeing the Austrians reinforce their troops on the frontiers of upper Silesia, and endeavour to force a passage on the side of Zugmantel and Weidenau, to cut off his communication with Neustadt and Neiss, retired from the environs of Leobschutz, on the 28th, beyond Hotzenplotz, and placed his right wing at Neustadt, his left toward Ober-Glogau, and his general quarters at Elfschnig.

The Austrians, on their part, drew in their quarters, in Bohemia, toward Landshut; and, on the 25th of March, they attacked the advanced posts of the army of the king, toward Schœmberg, Liebau, and Landshut.

The king, who had left Breslau, on the 23d, to establish his general quarters at Rahnstock, and who thought Glatz in danger, following the advice of general Fouquet, sent a detachment to occupy the heights of Ober-Eich, and of Nieder-Eich, between Glatz and Wartha; while he himself was encamped near Landshut.

The following letters contain the result of this position.

L E T.

LETTER V.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Elschnig, April 2, 1759.

SHOULD the Austrians wish to undertake the siege of Glatz, as your majesty supposes, I certainly believe that the corps, destined for that operation, will come from Grulisch and Nachod; and that the main army will take post, to cover the siege, near Wünschelburg, or Batzdorf; where it will be impossible for it to be attacked.

Under such circumstances, nothing better can be done, in my opinion, than to detach five or six battalions, to occupy the heights near the villages of Upper-Eich and Lower-Eich, between Wartha and Glatz; plans for which have been given to colonel Wreeden, and captain Winanco.

Perhaps, by this means, the measures of the enemy may be disconcerted.

Every thing is here in tranquillity; the frontiers have not yet been passed. Flour and forage however are continually transported to Hoff and Troppau; and it is said that general Marshall will have the command of the enemy's corps, in those parts.

L. M. FOUQUET.

This has given birth to the plan of acting in upper Silesia; and, if it be possible, to ruin their magazines at Troppau and Hoff.

Let me beg you to tell me your opinion. You have fifteen battalions; to these I can add six or seven more, and some regiments of horse. Inform me what are your thoughts, for I am not minutely acquainted with the situation of the Austrians, on your side. If the attempt be practicable, we shall gain two or three months repose, on that side, which will be a great point; and we shall take vengeance for certain affronts, which I bear in mind.

Your answer will determine what part I shall take, and this should be done quickly.

Farewel, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

ruin of all the magazines which had been formed by the Austrians, along the frontiers. This project general Knobloch, in the month of February, began to put in execution, in Thuringia. General Wobersnow destroyed the Russian magazines at Posen, and along the Wartha; and prince Henry very successfully did the same in Bohemia, and in Franconia; as will be circumstantially seen in the following letters.

LET,

LETTER VIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Elfchnig, April 4, 1759.

THE letter of your majesty, dated the 3d instant, came safely to hand.

General Ramin sent me advice that he should march to-morrow, the 5th, to Wartha, with five battalions.

I have written to colonel Wreeden, and to lieutenant-colonel D'O, relative to the post which the five battalions are to occupy, between Wartha and Glatz, near Upper-Eich and Lower-Eich; with orders for them to throw up abatis, and all necessary intrenchments.

To expel the Austrian troops, and those of the Empire, from Franconia, will be very favourable to the right wing of your majesty's army; and I wish every possible success to the attempt.

I suppose the Austrians have intentionally strengthened themselves so much, near Landshut, from the fear that your majesty should derange their plans, by penetrating, on that side, into Bohemia. Could this be effected at present, when the campaign is beginning, all our following operations would be sensible of the advantage.

According to advice from lieutenant-colonel

Safs, of Brieg, some Cossacks have been perceived in the vicinity of Wartenberg, on the frontiers of Poland. In other respects, all here is in tranquillity.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R IX.

From the King.

April 6, 1759.

YOU answer me like a Norman, my dear friend*. I ask whether any thing can be done, on your side; and you talk to me of an expedition toward Trautenau, where there is certainly very little to be effected.

But, suppose I should have driven them from those parts, what would be the consequence, and where should I find provisions? The country is eaten up, and there is not at present any forage; therefore how could the army exist? how remain without straw, oats, hay, and with every other infernal want, among these cursed mountains?

This is a difficulty, by the solving of which you will give me pleasure.

Adieu, my dear general. I embrace you.

FREDERIC.

* To answer like a Norman, is to equivocate. T.

L E T-

L E T T E R X.

From General Fouquet.

S I R È,

Elchnig, April 6, 1759.

THE project which your majesty was pleased to communicate to me, in your letter of the 3d of this month, could not have been better conceived.

It was my duty however to send you, as I here do, a circumstantial account of things, and situations.

Your majesty will see that the principal magazine is at Hoff; and that there are only some small stores at Troppau, and Freudenthal.

Since the Austrians have established a magazine at Hoff, they have collected their principal forces along the Oppa.

Should any attack on this magazine be attempted, the passage of the Oppa, and that of the Mora, must first be forced.

To execute this, it will be necessary to mask Troppau, and Jägerndorf; and to penetrate with a corps near Creutzendorf.

The first march may be made toward Leobschutz, or Bladen. They will not fail to break down the bridges over the Oppa; as they already have done near Jägerndorf, and in other parts;

parts; and to take post on the other side of the Oppa, on the heights which overlook that country, to dispute our passage.

A passage having been forced, Jægerndorf and Troppau must not be left in our rear; but it will be necessary to seize on Troppau, and throw some battalions into the place, to cover a retreat.

As such an enterprize can only be executed in a space of some days, it is to be supposed that the foe, attacked in his centre, will fall back, take post near his magazine of Hoff, and occupy the heights beyond the Mora, near Spakenkendorf, Heidenpultz, and Herzogswalde. This passage will be still more difficult to force than that of the Oppa; because of the situation, and the heights which lie beyond the Mora.

It must further be considered that the regiment of Bornstädt must be obliged to remain at Patzchkau; and that of Jung-Brunswick, at Neustadt; that a garrison must moreover be left at Leobschutz, and another at Troppau; so that, on my arrival at the Mora, I shall be deprived of some battalions, whereas the forces of the enemy will be all united beyond the river.

The attempt may notwithstanding be successful, though it may still more easily fail.

Such

Such are the observations which it has pleased your majesty to demand ; but, as you are acquainted with the passes of the Oppa and the Mora, and have very accurate maps, I submit the decision of the whole affair to you, and wait your orders.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XI.

From the King.

April 8, 1759.

I HAVE received your answer, my dear general, and allow the expedition to be difficult and uncertain. But, on the other hand, I find it to be so necessary as not to be neglected. It must be undertaken, that we may not suffer the halter to be thrown over our necks.

I will furnish you with five battalions, and the necessary artillery, as well as with pontons. You must explain to Wendeffen whatever is requisite. The regiments of Bornstædt, of Mosel, and of Brunswick, and all the bead-roll, must be taken with you. I have five regiments of horse ready ; but they must only be employed in the passage of the Oppa, and for the blockade of Troppau

and Jägerndorf, and must not be led toward the Mora, where they can be of no service.

Treskow may also aid in the expedition; especially as it will serve to cover his fortrefs.

As soon as I shall have received an answer from Wendeffen, I will set all in motion; and, when your corps shall be assembled, you will only have immediately to act; for, I have further to tell you that, when the affair is over, I shall withdraw the regiments which I send you, and likewise the artillery, which I do but lend, that I may perform the same service on Nachod.

You have about twenty thousand men in face of you, and we have nearly the same number. Should we drive away these gentry and their dragoons, and should we seize on their provisions, Daun will be obliged to new model his whole plan. This is the thing we wish; and then, let him turn on what side he will, I shall be able to follow him; which I could not do at present, unless I wish to abandon all Silesia.

Adieu, my dear friend. Make all your arrangements, let me have a quick answer, and I on my part will in like manner aid you, with the utmost vigilance.

I embrace you.

FREDERIC.

LET.

L. E T T E R XII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Elfchnig, April 9, 1759.

CAPTAIN Wendessen has sent me your majesty's orders, relative to the expedition of Hoff.

These orders, sire, shall be followed.

As however there are two rivers to pass, that is to say the Oppa and the Mora; and as, while we throw bridges over them, bodies of the enemy will infallibly take post on the other side, to dispute our passage; your majesty will do me the favour to remember that, there being so many impediments to the passage of the Oppa, for the reasons alleged in my preceding letter, it will be almost an impossibility to penetrate as far as Hoff; which, however, is the thing essential.

Should these impediments occasion the enterprize to fail, and should the corps be obliged to retreat, very disagreeable consequences may result, and such as may affect the whole campaign.

Bread for nine days, and forage for three, may be taken.

But, as the provisions are consumed from Austria to Hoff, and as there are few beasts of burthen in this country, it will be afterward

difficult to procure the necessary forage for the corps.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

April 10, 1759.

I SEND you sixteen cannon, eighteen pontons, four battalions, and four regiments of cavalry ; which will all be at Neifs on the 13th, and will join you on the 15th, at the latest.

I have sent orders to Treskow, to supply you with six howitzers ; and, if you wish to have them, with some mortars.

I recollect with you the obstacles which you will have to encounter ; but chance will determine on the good or ill fortune of the enterprize, and I am forced from circumstances to yield to many things to which, in different times, I should have great repugnance.

The attempt must be made. Should it succeed only in part, it will still be an advantage to have deranged the plans of the enemy ; and, should it be entirely successful, it will be admirable.

I form no hopes, and peaceably wait for chance

to decide the affair, well convinced you will neglect nothing, and that, should it be unsuccessful, it will not be your fault. Grand and Bülow go with this corps. You will take care to call in the regiments of Bornstädt and of Mosel.

I must repeat that, should you be fortunate, when the expedition is ended I shall immediately send for the cavalry, the four battalions of Bülow, and the six cannon; because I then propose to make a similar attempt on Nachod, and Braunau, that I may free the whole frontiers of Silesia of corps so well stationed to make attempts; so that, should the whole succeed, I may then undoubtedly turn, with my army, either to face the Russians or march to meet Leopoldus*. You will thus comprehend the necessity I am under of acting with risk; and that otherwise I must sink, and be ruined, before the campaign will be half over.

Adieu, my dear friend. I wish you all prosperity, and am wholly yours.

FREDERIC.

P. S. Daun means to act at the beginning of May, and we still have twenty days; if we employ this time well, we shall sweep the whole frontiers.

* Marshal Daun. T.

L E T T E R XIV.

From General Fouquet.

Elchnig, April 11, 1759.

SO be it, sire, since it is your will. Fear not but we will undertake with courage, without even hoping to succeed.

Your majesty at first intended to have sent me seven battalions, afterward five, and now only four. Our infantry certainly will not be too numerous.

The following is an abridgment of my plan—

To leave a battalion, with a squadron of the Seidlitz hussars, at Neustadt, where I have some flour and forage; and another, with a similar squadron, at Leobschütz, where I intend, in case of need, to convoy oats sufficient for three days consumption for the whole corps.

Lieutenant-general Seidlitz, with his cavalry, two or three battalions, and two squadrons of hussars, will conduct the enterprize from Trop-pau.

The van-guard will be committed to lieutenant-general Treskow, and will consist of six battalions, six squadrons of the Werner hussars, and six squadrons of the Bayreuth dragoons.

I shall

I shall head the remainder of the corps, and march under the auspices of fortune.

The expedition over, we shall be as speedy in our return as in our attack.

L. M. ROUQUET.

LETTER XV.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Landshut, April 12, 1759.

I HAVE sent you all I was able to send. You will have two battalions from Neiss, two from Bornstädt, and the four which I have sent. My detachment of Glatz has weakened me so much that I cannot, with prudence, send you more. I have a large body here to face; and, in order to deceive the enemy, I have advanced thus far with all my men, where I shall tranquilly wait for news from you. Should it be good, as I wish and hope, I may afterward, with your aid, clear this frontier: but, should it succeed only in part, I shall be obliged to take my measures accordingly.

Prince Ferdinand continues to make a progress on his side. Should therefore every thing prosper, we shall have our arms at liberty, for

the opening of the campaign, when affairs will become more difficult, and more serious.

Adieu, my dear general. I embrace you with all my heart, and wish you every felicity; not without a hope of soon hearing good news from you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XVI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Elfschnig, April 15, 1759

I HAVE this evening assembled the corps of this country, intending to begin my march to-morrow, the 16th, on the expedition which it has pleased your majesty to commit to me. Not having any howitzers, I have sent to Neifs for two fifty-pound mortars.

The Austrians have passed the river, with some battalions, and have occupied Bleischwitz, Peterwitz, and various other villages, on the other side of the Oppa.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T.

LETTER XVII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Landshut, April 16, 1759.

OUR enemies do not in the least expect what is soon to happen. I inspire them with every fear I am able to inspire.

The regiments which marched toward upper Silesia have returned to Königsgrätz; in a word, I second you with all my power.

My brother Henry should this day enter Bohemia to commit ravages there. I hold the main army in suspense; and I flatter myself that your talents, added to the security of the foe, will be productive of the most splendid success.

Adieu, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

LETTER XVIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Troppau, April 17, 1759.

THE whole corps has this day passed the Oppa, at Kreutzendorf and at Dirschkowitz,
and

and the cavalry has endeavoured to block up Troppau.

Companies of ulans and pandours, that occasionally made their appearance, have not offered any resistance.

The garrison of Troppau, composed of three battalions of Hungarian infantry and pandours, fled toward Grätz two hours before we arrived, not having heard the intelligence sooner.

The cavalry of our van-guard came up with it; but, as the infantry was not able to follow soon enough, only two captains, two lieutenants, and two hundred and eleven soldiers, have been made prisoners. Many have been killed, without any loss on our part.

The corps will to-morrow continue its march, and we shall use our utmost efforts to render ourselves masters of the magazine.

Lieutenant-general Seidlitz is to remain here, with the cavalry.

The enemy, having retired on all sides, will, it may be presumed, take post on the heights beyond the Mora; where to attack him will be impossible, as your majesty knows.

Should that happen, I shall be obliged to return for want of provisions; for we found no magazine here, and the corps has forage only for three days.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER XIX.

From the King.

Landshut, April 20, 1759.

I RECEIVED your account, dated the 17th of this month, and was highly pleased to learn that your expedition has thus far been successful. I am only vexed that you have not yet found any magazine.

I am however certain there are considerable stores at Jægerndorf; for this place has kept a neutrality. These you may take and send to Neifs, that you may at least profit by something, if more should not be permitted you.

Could you but drive the enemy among the mountains, you might now and then find opportunities to take prisoners.

I here inclose a short extract of the favourable expedition of my brother Henry, into Bohemia.

I am your affectionate king.

FREDERIC.

P. S. Should it please Heaven to make your opponents guilty of some mistakes, by these perhaps you may profit.

A brief

*A brief Narrative of the Expedition of Prince
Henry of Prussia into Bohemia.*

From Linay, April 17, 1759.

ON the 15th, the prince arrived at the camp of Hellendorf. The heights on the back of Peterwald were occupied by a thousand pandours, and Hungarian infantry, who were posted behind a considerable abatis.

After they had been repulsed by the free battalions, a part of our van-guard arrived, on the same evening, at Auffig, and the remainder at Tœplitz; and the flour and forage there collected, which the enemy had abandoned, were destroyed.

On the 16th, the Prussians marched to Lipay, and seized on the magazines of Lowositz and Leutmeritz, where they found much flour. They burnt all the boats on the Elbe, and the corps pushed forward, to seize on the stores which the enemy had left at Budyn.

General Hülsen, according to a previous plan, marched on the 15th for Basberg. The enemy was turned by our cavalry, which passed through Bresnitz. The two Austrian regiments of Andlau and Kœnigsek wished to maintain their posts; but lieutenant-colonel Belling, and the regiments of the corps, fell upon the pandours; and general Renard, fifty officers, and two thousand

land men were made prisoners. Two standards were taken, two pair of colours, and three cannon. The whole of our killed and wounded amounted to sixty-six men. The enemy beside left two hundred dead on the place.

Major-general Ascherleben seized on the magazine of Saatz; so that, summing up the whole of what we have taken, in forage and flour, we may from this form a considerable magazine:

We have this moment learnt that a large magazine of oats has been found at Libochowitz, where fourteen prisoners have been made, of the regiment of Schmertzling.

We have burnt all the bridges over the Eger, and destroyed all the magazines on the banks of that river. We have this instant been informed that a thousand tons of flour have been found at Worwizschan.

L E T T E R XX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Kunzendorf, April 18, 1759.

TO continue my narrative of yesterday, I must inform your majesty that the corps this day arrived,

arrived, without impediment, at Hartau, near the Mora, where the bridge was broken down.

The enemy, as I had supposed, had taken post on the heights beyond the river, between Hertzogswalde and Heidenpilsch.

Having passed the Mora, to reconnoitre the situation of the Austrians, I found them ranged in two lines, between which a third projected. The cavalry covered the wings.

I examined whether they might not be taken in flank, on the road of Bautsch; but neither could this project be executed, because of the heights and ravines which intersect the country.

According to the report of the deserters, general de Ville in person defends the passage of Bautsch with a body of men; a third corps is posted in the woods, on our right, near Spaken-dorf; and the bridges are broken down, and abatis thrown up.

Unable to make any attempt here, and having forage only for two days, I shall to-morrow begin my retreat.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T.

LETTER XXI.

From the King.

Landshut, April 20, 1759.

YOUR account of the 18th is in like manner satisfactory. You informed me you were not able to drive the enemy further than the banks of the Mora. Perhaps he will be daring enough to follow you, when you begin your march; in which case you may find some opportunity to play him a trick, such as may be equal to every thing we wish.

I am your very affectionate king.

FREDERIC.

P. S. All things cannot succeed as we could desire, my friend. Fortune however must be attacked. She is sometimes favourable when we expect it the least; and at others the fantastical huffy leaves us in the lurch, after enticing us by her coquettish antics.

LETTER XXII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Troppau, April 20, 1759.

IT being impossible for me to attack the Austrians, in their post beyond the Mora, as I
 2 have

have had the honour to inform your majesty, I yesterday with my corps retreated to this place. The Austrians began their march at the same time that I began mine. I saw them proceed, in two columns, toward Hoff; there, no doubt, with an intention better to cover their magazine.

According to the account of the deserters, general Marschal arrived at their camp the day before yesterday, in the afternoon, and took the command of the corps.

The four regiments of cavalry, the four battalions of Münchow and Lindstädt, and in like manner the eight pontons and the half of the heavy artillery, which it pleased your majesty to send me, left this place yesterday, under the command of lieutenant-general Seidlitz, to repair to your majesty's army. To-day they will arrive at Leobschütz, and to-morrow at Zülzt.

I suffer my men to rest here to-day, but I shall be obliged to continue my march to-morrow, for want of provisions.

The remainder of the heavy artillery, which appertains to your majesty's army, I will send to-morrow to lieutenant-general Seidlitz.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LET.

LETTER XXIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Leobschütz, April 21, 1759.

ON my arrival here, I received your majesty's letter, dated yesterday.

I congratulate you, sire, on the excellent plan which prince Henry has accomplished, in Bohemia; and am mortified that I could not find the means to execute the principal project, and ruin some magazines.

On my march from Leobschütz to Troppau, I detached a party of three hundred men to Jägerndorf, where they found no magazine; and only could destroy and ruin the causeways, and pallifadoes; this has in like manner been done at Troppau.

At the latter place I found only forty tons of flour, of which bread was immediately made.

While the corps under prince Henry had the good fortune to take several magazines, we have been obliged to retreat, for want of provisions. Could we have remedied this defect, we should still have been on the banks of the Mora.

We had not a grain of forage left, when we arrived at Leobschütz.

The whole amount of our prisoners is two captains, three lieutenants, and two hundred and sixty-one private men. Our loss is only two men killed, and ten wounded.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XXIV.

From the King.

Landshut, April 22, 1759.

IT is necessary, my dear general, to inform you what is our present situation.

My brother Henry has driven all the enemies he could meet with before him, and has taken the principal magazines of the Austrians; &c.

This has so much deranged the plans of the pope-blessed general* that he has detached Harsch, with sixteen battalions, toward Leutmeritz.

My brother at present is on his march, to come up with the troops of the circles, toward Bamberg; and, though my position will not al-

* In the month of January, 1759, general count Daun received, from pope Clement XIII. a consecrated cap and sword. This is the reason why the epithets pope-blessed, the man with the papal toka, and the sanctified animal (*créature bénite*) are so often bestowed upon him, by the king, in his letters.

low me to do much, yet, all things considered, I intend to make an excursion, and drive the Austrians from Nachod and Braunau.

Let me beg you to tell me what is your opinion; for, should you think with me, you must second my enterprise, in which I can principally employ none but you.

Send me a quick answer. Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XXV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Leobschütz, April 23, 1759.

THE gracious letter of your majesty, dated the 22d instant, informs me of your intention to drive the Austrians from the vicinity of Nachod and Braunau, and commands me to tell you my opinion.

According to intelligence given by lieutenant-colonel D'O, the Austrians must have about twelve thousand men, in the environs of Braunau.

I therefore think that, could your majesty march from Landshut for Friedland and Brau-

K 2

nau,

nau, by making the roads which lead from Trautenau, Starckstadt, and Politz, protect your flanks, it would be possible to take this corps, should I at the same time march toward Braunau, through Wunschelburg, to attack it on that side; for the only roads the enemy can take will be those which go from Wernersdorf, and Dittersbach, to Starckstadt; and from Weckerdorf to Politz.

This done, your majesty may, if you please, proceed through Politz, or Starckstadt, toward Nachod; while I march through Reinerts and Levin; or I may retreat, according to circumstances, and as your majesty shall think proper.

This will all depend on the orders your majesty shall issue; and we have only to regulate the days of march, to advance at the same time on both sides, and attack the corps of Braunau.

According to the advice I have received, which all the deserters have confirmed, the corps of De Ville consists of thirty-seven battalions, six regiments of dragoons, one of hussars, three thousand pandours, and two pulks of ulans, amounting to thirty thousand men.

This whole corps, the day before yesterday, was still in face of Hoff, at their camp near Maywalde. Since yesterday afternoon their light troops and dragoons have all pushed forward,

ward, burrowed into the woods that lie between here and Jägerndorf, and have proceeded as far as Zuckmantel.

I return the regiments of Munchow and Landstædt to your majesty; that of Mosel is marched back to Neifs; so that, with the garrison of Neustadt, I now have seventeen battalions, and the free battalion of Lüderitz.

Should your majesty command me to march, I must abandon these parts; leaving only two battalions, with a squadron of hussars, at Patzkau. On my march to Wunschelburg, I may station three battalions at Schwedelsdorf, or Reinerts, to occupy that pass. With the twelve remaining battalions, I may, in five days march, arrive at Wunschelburg. Should the roads be bad, six will be necessary, and two days rest, which will amount to eight.

Dispose, sire, of your most humble, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

P. S. Of the ten new cannon, which your majesty intended for me, I have received only six; and my letters from Breslau inform me that the other four have been sent to your majesty.

L E T T E R XXVI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Landshut, April 25, 1759.

I HAVE received your answer; but affairs have changed since I wrote to you; for Beck, who was at Bergitz and Braunau, has marched in haste with his corps toward Prague; so that there are very few troops in this vicinity.

Should we however turn Braunau, Politz, and Nachod, we shall oblige Laudohn to make great marches, and perhaps shall force him to retreat; after which, we may if we please return. If you bring me three battalions, two of Mosel and one more, these will be sufficient.

I have four battalions at Franckenstein, and four at Wartha, Arnheim and Glatz; these, with Le Noble, are all that are necessary.

The regiment of Wurtemberg dragoons, and five squadrons of Noehring, may join you. It will at present be impossible to march on the roads of Gersdorf, and Tannhausen; but they will be in better order, in seven or eight days.

I am of opinion that, should you then send two battalions against Braunau, while we shall come through St. John, these will be sufficient

to

to repulse a swarm of pandours, and that you may march immediately for Nachod. Those of Braunau may then turn the post of Bergitz, and proceed as far as Politz ; by which we shall procure prisoners, and draw the enemy's attention on this side, while my brother may beat the army of the empire.

Magazines, of every kind have been taken and destroyed, in Bohemia, sufficient to supply an army of fifty thousand men seven months.

Treskow may take the command, during your absence ; and, the expedition over, we will remain tranquil, and wait for events.

Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

P. S. Your artillery ought to consist of thirty twelve pounders, and two howitzers ; and there are ten more howitzers at Glatz. Let some of these be transported to Neifs, that they may be ready for you, should you have occasion for them.

L E T T E R XXVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Leuber, April 28, 1759.

THE whole corps of general de Ville having yesterday advanced beyond Bladen, I found it impossible for me to secure the necessary convoys from Cosel, and was obliged to repass the Hotzenplotz, and to take post with my corps in the vicinage of Neustadt, that I might continue to observe the motions of the enemy; especially after having detached four regiments of horse, and two of foot, to your majesty's army, the regiment of Mosel to Neiss, and the free battalion of Lüderitz to Polnischwetta.

The corps of De Ville has hitherto consisted of thirty-seven battalions; but, according to the report of some deserters, he has been reinforced by six battalions from the garrison of Ollmutz. This however is what I cannot certainly affirm.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T

LETTER XXVIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

April 25, 1759.

I LEARN, from yours of the 25th, that the corps of De Vil'e is advanced; you have therefore acted very properly in retiring to Neustadt. According to all appearances, we shall find something to do on that side. I hold it my duty at least to attempt whatever is possible; and, though we cannot foresee how far we may be successful, we must at least try our fortune.

I will therefore tell you what is my purpose.

Beside the four battalions which are with you, I will join you with six more battalions, to which shall further be added the two battalions of Neifs. We will afterward fall on these Austrians, in the hope of being successful, and, at least, drive them back to their mountains.

On the 29th of this month, these forces may all be assembled at Neifs; and I will join you on the 30th. I believe you have some pontons remaining; you have therefore only to make your arrangements, with respect to the roads, and to know in what manner, and in how many columns, we may march immediately to Bladen, where the enemy is posted. You have, no doubt,
some

some small map of this ground, which you so long have occupied.

The plan I proposed here to have executed could not have been very successful ; for which reason we must make an attempt on your side.

I am your affectionate king.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Leuber, April 26, 1759.

THE letter of your majesty, dated the 25th instant, has been delivered into my own hands ; and I wait the final commands of your majesty, on this subject.

We yesterday passed the Hotzenplotz, without meeting any disturbance from the Austrian parties ; but about five in the evening, major Rosenbusch, having under his command two squadrons of hussars, was attacked in the village of Deutsch-Rasschwitz, situated on the banks of the Hotzenplotz, which I had passed, by a corps of eight hundred ulans, who put him to the rout.

We immediately sent a succour of two other squadrons, that entirely repulsed this detachment

of the enemy, and once more seized on Deutsch-Rasselwitz. Of the two first squadrons however are missing major Rosenbusch, captain Pannewitz, lieutenant Winter, and eighty-six hussars, who probably are made prisoners.

The corps of general de Ville is posted, according to the intelligence of to-day, beyond Bladen; and his light troops extend from this place to Meydelberg, along the mountains.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R X X X .

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL, Landshut, April 26, 1759.

I ANSWER your letter of the 26th instant, and inform you that you ought at present to give every demonstration of intending to retreat still further. By this means we shall have leisure to deceive the enemy more certainly; and, if possible, to beat him in the manner we could wish.

To-morrow at noon I shall be at Neiss; you may therefore inform me, after my arrival, of all that passes.

I am your affectionate king.

FREDERIC.

P. S. I must, cost what it will, disencumber myself of one corps of the enemy. The operations of my brother have put Daun on the defensive: I therefore profit by the moment to fall on De Ville. Could we but come up with him, before he could gain information, his loss must be severe.

Adieu, my dear general. To-morrow at noon I shall be at Neifs.

L E T T E R XXXI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Leubcr, April 27, 1759.

THE corps under De Ville yesterday advanced as far as the environs of Meydelberg, having sent forward the light troops, beyond the mountains and woods which lie before Neustadt.

The care this general takes, to conceal his manœuvres, induces me to suppose his sole intention is to cover his march, that he may glide behind the hills with his corps, and endeavour to separate me, or cut off my communication with Neifs, whence I draw my subsistence.

I believe this opinion to be the better founded because no patrols have made their appearance on his right, in the plains toward Glogau.

The incertitude of his proceedings induces me to seek a convenient camp, for which I shall march to-morrow, and which will be somewhere near Heydau and Deutsch-Kamnitz, a mile from Neifs.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

P. S. While concluding my letter I received that from your majesty, sent by captain Wendessen. I have no pontons here, because I returned them, with the cannon, under the care of lieutenant-general Seidlitz.

L E T T E R XXXII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Deutsch-Kamnitz, April 28, 1759.

THE corps, having yesterday arrived here, took possession of its camp, between this place and Heydau.

The infantry was on the ground when the rear-guard, under the command of general Werner, was attacked by four regiments of dragoons, ulans, and hussars; but they were immediately repulsed, and pursued, by Dittersdorf, without any loss being suffered on our part.

I yesterday got possession of a letter of general
de

de Ville, dated at Liebenthal, behind Meydelberg.

As he has to-day detached much of his cavalry to follow us, I presume he means himself to continue advancing.

So much the better. I hope he will dance the cotillon; two or three steps forward, and five or six back.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XXXIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Deutsch-Kamnitz, April 29, 1759.

ACCORDING to your majesty's orders, I have formed the plan I here send for the march of the army, in three columns. I have no knowledge of the roads, except of that which I have taken in my last march.

I have made use of the map which your majesty caused to be drawn of these environs, and which you no doubt have at Neifs.

The patrols, who advanced as far as Schnellendorf, did not meet with any foe; for which reason I suppose general de Ville is still in his camp, near Meydelberg.

I am

I am in expectation of intelligence to-day, and shall immediately make my report to your majesty.

Under the pretence of speaking to the officers of hussars, who are made prisoners, I have sent a trumpet to the enemy near Neustadt; when the messenger shall have returned, we shall be informed of what he has discovered, and of what is passing.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XXXIV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Deutsch-Kamnitz, April 29, 1759.

ACCORDING to the report of the patroles, and other intelligence, general de Ville has encamped on the other side of Neustadt. His camp is situated near Capellenberg, and he has seized on the villages of Lindewiese, Greysau, and Dittmansdorf, between here and Neustadt. His horse patrol is posted in the forest of Oppersdorf, opposite to ours.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XXXV:

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

Neiss, 29,
One o'clock mid-day:

I AM this moment arrived, and have received three of your letters. I am entirely of your opinion that, should M. de Ville but advance a little further, he will be obliged to take prodigious leaps.

My regiments are not yet all come up. I think however it will be necessary to march tomorrow, that the enemy may gain no information of what is passing.

I bring with me twelve battalions, and you have fifteen, which amount to twenty-seven. I likewise bring the artillery of Bülow, twelve more of these great guns*, and eight regiments of horse. I must of necessity direct my march toward you and Neustadt, unless the enemy should be so good as to approach nearer, of which I doubt.

We are therefore to enquire how we may turn the camp of Meydelberg, which I believe must be effected through Telzstein.

All our grenadiers, hussars, and dragoons, will form the vanguard.

* Great guns. T.

have

I have this moment received your last letter. De Ville is mad, and we will certainly beat him the day after to-morrow. This being so, we may advance as near as possible to the enemy.

N. B. Are pontoons necessary to pass the Hotzenplotz? I have some here, but shall leave them, if they are unnecessary. Inform me likewise whether you have bridges for the columns. If not, I will bring some with me. Be kind enough to send me an answer immediately.

Adieu, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

LETTER XXXVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Deutsch-Kamnitz, April 29, 1759.

I HAVE just received your majesty's letter at our advanced posts, where, according to what I can judge, by the marching and counter-marching of the Hungarian and light troops of the enemy, they are in possession of most of the villages lying between this and Neustadt.

I have seen about two thousand men of these mixed troops, that came from Dittmansdorf, crossed the woods, and marched toward Neuwalde.

VOL. XIII.

L

Your

Your majesty informs me you will to-morrow direct your march for Neustadt; according to which, sire, I will send the grenadiers, hussars, and dragoons forward, as far as Lindewiese: the main army shall follow.

I wait your majesty's commands, sent by lieutenant Treskow, to know at what hour it is your pleasure I should march; that I may leave the road unencumbered and free for you.

Permit me, sire, to inform you of my sentiments. If we both take the same road, we shall repulse the corps under De Ville, without doing him much or any harm; whereas, if we march in three bodies, we shall embarrass him, and profit by the disorder and confusion into which we shall throw his forces.

To turn Meydelberg and Fullstein, should they be occupied by a body of the enemy, we must pass near Hotzenplotz through Carlsberg, Trenkau, Matzdorf, Raufen, and Roben. This will be proper for the corps, or the column, destined to turn the Austrians; but we cannot prevent them from retreating, through Olberdorf and Jägerndorf, without being able perhaps to do them the least injury; whereas, should a corps pass on the right of Neustadt, by Langenbruch, another through Neustadt, and a third through Dittersdorf, they will make head against
the

the two first beyond the hills, and will give time for the third to march to the above-mentioned places.

We have no need of pontons to pass the Hotzenplotz. I have two bridges; if your majesty will bring two more, they will be sufficient.

I have just been told that the Austrians who entered at Neuwalde have proceeded as far as Langendorf, and have directed their march toward Ziegenhals.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XXXVII.

From the King.

Noise, seven in the evening.

I HAVE not yet received an answer to my letter. I shall march to-morrow with my whole corps, and come up with you, my dear general, at half past five. Let no regiment move, nor give the least notice of my presence. I will choose my camp to conceal myself from the enemy; and we will draw up a plan of the manner in which we are to act on the first of May.

My opinion is that we ought to march for

L 2

Leffen,

Lessen, with the whole corps; in order to turn the enemy, and take him in flank. This road you ought to know by rote, and we can consequently make our arrangements.

Adieu, my dear friend.

Your aid de camp is this moment arrived, and brought me your letter. It is necessary, my dear general, that I should speak to you, and that we should agree on our plan before we put ourselves in motion. If De Ville be certainly at Neustadt with his whole corps, it would be rashness to divide our troops in this manner to dislodge him; and, in such a case, we must conform to rule. But, should the corps of Neustadt be only his vanguard, your proposition then is excellent.

FREDERIC.

On the 30th of April, in the morning, his majesty marched with his whole corps to Oppersdorf, where he fixed his general quarters. His intention was to attack general De Ville, and he had made his dispositions accordingly; but, as intelligence was received that the enemy had changed his position, and had taken post on the heights of Zuckmantel, where
it

it was impossible to attack him with the whole corps, a detachment was formed of all the hussars, fifteen squadrons of dragoons, five battalions of grenadiers, and a free battalion.

On the first of May his majesty began his march, with this corps, toward Zuckmantel, and attacked the corps of general De Ville in person; from whom he took six officers, and a hundred and sixty-six croats, killed a great number of men, and drove the enemy as far as Hermstædt.

On the second, the king with his corps decamped, to return to Landshut.

General Fouquet remained near Deutsch-Kamnitz, with his corps, till the 24th. He afterward marched toward Frankenstein; and, on the 6th of July, after the departure of the king, he entered the camp of Landshut.

L E T T E R XXXVIII.

From General Fouquet,

S I R E,

Deutsch-Kamnitz, May 6, 1759.

THE corps under general De Ville continues in the same position, near Hermstædt.

L 3

He

He has detached general Renard, with the croats and ulans, to the mountains and forests, beyond Neustadt ; having taken post with the remainder of the corps toward Johannisthal and Hennerdorf.

Yesterday morning, general Werner proposed an attempt to be made on this corps, by endeavouring to turn it through Arnoldsdorf, and Johannisthal. I desired him to inform himself of the true strength of the said corps, and of the situation of its advanced posts, and to make his report to me, after which we would form our plan accordingly ; and said that I, in the mean time, would order an engineer to repair the road we must take, on our march to the attack.

I sent the engineer to him this morning, with the plan and regulations, intending to put it in execution to-night.

But all I have done is ineffectual. General Werner, without waiting for orders, or plan, marched yesterday evening, at eleven o'clock, with all the hussars and three battalions of grenadiers. I did not hesitate a moment to put him under arrest, and I entreat your majesty will command a council of war to be held ; were it only that we are unable to act without this brave man ; especially as there is no officer of hussars here capable of acting as his substitute, and he
having

having been in part successful; for he has taken lieutenant Kochzizki, aid de camp to general Renard, prisoner, with twenty-five ulans, raitzes, and croats, all wounded; has put as many more to the sword; and has brought off some forty horses. I leave it to your majesty to determine on his merits. He had three hussars killed, and five or six wounded.

I have in the mean time taken proper precautions, that he should no more dispose of the hussars in a body, nor of the grenadiers according to his fancy.

The number of Austrian deserters is increased to a hundred and twenty-three.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Deutsch-Kamnitz, May 16, 1759.

I CANNOT learn in what part of the hills the corps under general Jahnius is stationed, for it has not hitherto been discovered.

The corps under De Ville still keeps the same post, and neither Austrians nor Prussians are in motion.

In fine, war will take that route which your

L 4

majesty

majesty and fate shall prescribe; and I could wish, sire, you could in like manner rid yourself of your vile colic.

Let me entreat your majesty to take a glass of wine, some Provençal oil, a piece of bread toasted, and a glass of water, and you will be relieved in an hour.

I have this moment heard a rumour that prince Henry has gained a victory over the army of the Empire, near D'Asch and Oelsnitz, in the vicinity of Hoff.

I shall be delighted to hear the report confirmed, that I may communicate the intelligence to my neighbours.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XL.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Franckenstein, June 1, 1759.

THE conduct you observe, very different from the opening of your other campaigns, in which you have always been more alert than the Austrians, cannot but embarrass general Daun.

This has occasioned him to order his corps, and
even

even his whole army, to advance on the Austrian frontiers, to dispute the passage with you.

Your inactivity must certainly disconcert him; and he will probably endeavour, by making diversions, to induce you to send out detachments; or he will wait the approach of the Russians.

We have no news.

General Treskow informs me that De Ville keeps the post from which he was driven by your majesty; having his quarters at Zuckmantel, and sending his patrols almost as far as Neifs.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XLI.

From the King.

June 3, 1759.

ACCORDING to the news I receive, my dear friend, and from what I can conjecture of the plan of my enemies, it should seem they mean to set me at defiance.

This is equally confirmed by what D'O has written to me to-day, which he has no doubt communicated to you; so that I have sent for Seidlitz, Platen, and Sydow, to come to me.

For

For your part, should Daun, as is apparent, pay me a visit; and should Beck, and perhaps Laudohn, attempt to penetrate through Friedland, I abandon them to you. In this case you must call in Ramin, and send for Bülow to join you, that you may take these gentry in flank, in rear, and in every kind of way, to drive them into Bohemia. This effected, De Ville, Harfch, and Jahnus will no more rear their crest, but will bury themselves among the mountains, without striking a blow.

I begin to persuade myself affairs will take this turn. The Russians are in motion, and it is no longer time to temporize. Daun must be the main spring of the whole machine; therefore, in order to take Silesia, every thing demonstrates that some risk must be run.

De Ville is obliged to detach four regiments for Bohemia; a certain sign that they mean to strike the great blow on that side. With all my heart: I welcome the omen. As soon as I shall gain any intelligence, I will communicate it to you; and will at the same time direct you how to act, as I shall suppose for the best, in such a case.

The detachment of Marck-Lissa is retreated for Bohemia; it only consisted of six hundred men.

My

My brother Henry is now at Zwickau. Sekendorf, with three battalions, has beaten six Austrian battalions, four hundred croats, and nine hundred hussars. Kleist has attacked a corps, that pursued the rear-guard of my brother, near Hoff; and has taken two cannon, and a hundred prisoners, from the enemy.

Their mob is not invincible, provided they be not attacked by poltroons, and have not six hundred pieces of artillery in battery.

Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XLII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Frankenstein, June 3, 1759.

GENERAL De Ville occupies a camp near Kalkau, in the vicinity of Weydenau, with a corps composed of fifteen battalions, and four regiments of Saxon dragoons, exclusive of the croats, the ulans, and the hussars. His patrols advance as far as Patschkau and Ottmachau; and it is said he is on the point of encamping beyond Patschkau. The magistrates of that town have received orders to deliver in a considerable

siderable quantity of bread and meat, for the corps under De Ville.

Various reports confirm the news that some of the regiments of this corps have marched toward Bohemia, through Altstadt.

Some days since I viewed the position of general Ramin, near Wartha, which I found to be very good.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XLIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

Reich-Hennerdorf,
June 4, 1759,

I RECEIVED your relation of the 3d of this month. You have as much force as general De Ville at present has, after the detachment which he must have made; you even surpass him in cavalry; for which reason you are very able to make head against him, should he make any attempt.

This being so, he will not send his patrols too far from his camp.

I am, &c.

The comedy will soon begin here, according
to

to all I can learn. Daun proposes to force my post. Let him : he will find who he has to talk to. I have called in all the troops I have, and am in the best situation of which my affairs will admit.

I will send you timely notice of what relates to yourself. You must not stir at present ; for the great affair is, positively to understand what are the intentions of the enemy.

FREDERIC.

LETTER XLIV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Franckenstein, June 4, 1759.

THE detachment which general De Ville has made consists of the seven regiments of Molk-Wallis, Alt-Colloredo, Collovrath, Deutschmeister, Anger, and Durlach, including the two companies of grenadiers appertaining to each regiment ; as your majesty must have seen, in the report of lieutenant-colonel D'O, which is confirmed by general Treskow ; with the addition of the two regiments of dragoons of Saxe-Gotha and of Modena.

General De Ville still occupies his camp near Kalkau, with the remainder of his corps.

I have received your majesty's orders, and now only wait to carry the whole into execution. Should general Ramin join me, does your majesty wish that I should leave the free battalion of Le Noble to cover the bridge of Wartha?

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XLV.

From the King.

Reich-Hennerdorf, June 5, 1759.

I HAVE received your account of the 4th instant, and you may leave the free battalion of Le Noble at Wartha; but it is necessary for him to be very alert, during the absence of the other battalions. In case he should find himself too much pressed, that is to say too near the enemy, he may at any time throw himself into Glatz. With respect to your battalions, endeavour to make them extend, imperceptibly, somewhat before Reichenbach, were it only a brigade of infantry, that a corps may immediately be ready to join Bülow.

You may also send some artillery there, which would be so much gain. I believe the enemy will begin his operations in three or four days. You may also send the free battalion of Lüderitz directly to join Bülow, of which he may make good use, among these mountains; and I have ordered lieutenant-general Treskow to send you the battalion of grenadiers of Rath.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

P. S. It is at least necessary four battalions, and the hussars of Gerisdorf and of Lüderitz, should join Bülow, to-morrow, in his post of Beerisdorf; and that you should make your troops file off toward Reichenbach; as, for example, five battalions and the regiment of Bayreuth, that all may be ready to join Bülow, on the shortest notice.

Conceal their march from the enemy, and employ all according to your best abilities. The following is nearly what will happen.

When Daun shall put himself in motion, a heavy body will advance upon me. Of this I will take care. Another column will pass by Friedland, to penetrate into this country; and Beck will march for Tannhausen, to amuse the corps that I have there. A body will penetrate into your country, to keep you at bay; De Ville
will

will pass the Neisse, to stop you on that side ; but all this will not embarrass you much. March to Bülow ; and, when you have joined him, then attack the column of the enemy, whether it be at Tannhausen, Gottesberg, or near Vallenburg.

A map of these countries shall be drawn this evening, and I will send it you immediately. Call in major Hauchwitz to you ; Ramin may also take post at Silberberg, that he may be more near to Treskow. In a word, we must not be outwitted, but confine ourselves to the principal plan of the enemy, and endeavour to render it abortive. De Ville and all his troops will then take to flight without bidding.

My poor old friend, marshal Kalkstein, is just dead.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XLVI.

From the King.

Reich-Hennerdorf, June 5, 1759.

BY the bearer I send you the plan in question, of which I gave you notice in my letter of this morning, and the reception of which you will do well to acknowledge.

On

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

P. S. Aided by this plan, and your own excellent abilities, you will do whatever shall be requisite, and act according to circumstances. It is indifferent on which side you turn these * * *. The man with the papal toka moves neither hand nor foot.

The detachment of De Ville has not joined any of these corps which threaten us; I therefore cannot judge of its destination. The Russians cannot be in the environs of Glogau sooner than the 12th; so that it may very well happen our present situation may be more tedious than we expected. But no matter; let us continue our train, and chastise the first that shall present themselves.

Farewel, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XLVII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Franckenstein, June 6, 1759.

THE orders which your majesty yesterday sent, and the plan, arrived with sufficient

VOL. XIII.

M

speed

speed to be immediately put in execution. The free battalion of Lüderitz, with the six squadrons of Gerisdorf hussars, marched last night; and this morning, at break of day, general Schenkendorf, accompanied by two battalions of the margrave Henry and two of Ramin, with the half of the heavy artillery, that is, five pieces of large twelve pounders and four howitzers, began their march to join general Bülow. Exclusive of these, five battalions, that is, a battalion of the Pritwitz volunteers, a battalion of the grenadiers of Carlowitz, a battalion of the Buddenbrock grenadiers, two battalions of Queist, and the regiment of Bayreuth dragoons, have marched to-day to Peterfwalde, where they are near the post of general Bülow.

General Ramin, with the two regiments of Kalkstein and Manteufel, arrived to-day at Silberberg, and in the vicinity.

The free battalion of Le Noble has stayed, to cover the passage near Wartha.

With the four remaining battalions, that is, the battalion of Naumeister, the grenadier battalion of Unruh, two battalions of Fouquet, three regiments of horse, and the hussars of Werner, I wait here for the final orders of your majesty.

The battalions of Naumeister and Unruh,
with

with the hussars of Werner, have occupied Gællenau, Stolzen, Kuntzendorf, and Camenz. I did not wish to disgarnish these villages, that I might conceal the march from general De Ville.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XLVIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Franckenstein, June 6, 1759.

HAVING hitherto maintained a continual correspondence with general-Bülow, I have sent him the following questions.

1. How many troops does he require to maintain his post?

2. Should the enemy quit his post, and take the high road for Alten-Reussendorf and Hohen-Gierdorf, could he attack him in flank?

To the first question the general replied, that he only asked four squadrons of hussars and dragoons, and four battalions, to maintain his post; that more would be useless to him, for he could not station them.

With respect to the second, he thinks he could not detach troops toward Reussendorf and Dittmansdorf, should he at once be threatened

and attacked, in front, on the side of Tannhausen, and Charlottenbrun.

Neither is there much to be done on that side; because of the various défiles, and of the difficulty of passing through the village; a pass which the enemy might easily dispute, should he occupy the heights which overlook the other side of this same village.

All he has said is confirmed by an officer of engineers, whom I have sent to reconnoitre the ground.

Not being able therefore to act with my corps near general Bülow, I have posted myself with the thirteen remaining battalions, including the four of Ramin and the battalion of Rath grenadiers, on the heights before Hohen-Gierfdorf, where I have free room for the necessary manœuvres, and where I can make use of the cavalry: in order that, should the enemy endeavour to penetrate on the high road of Neu-Reufendorf, I might receive him in front, while general Bülow might disturb him in flank as much as possible, till your majesty could come up.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LET-

LETTER XLIX.

From the King.

Reich-Hennerdorf, June 6, 1759.

I HAVE received your two reports of the 6th, and approve the chief of the measures which you have taken. Should the enemy make an effort, you must assemble all your troops; that is, the thirteen battalions which you have, and those under general Bülow; because, if united, you will certainly be able to fall upon one of the columns of the Austrians, and to harass it; but, if separate, you can do nothing, and all you can undertake must be ineffectual.

The Russians cannot enter Silesia before the 12th, 13th, or 14th instant.

Daun wishes to act in the mean time; he has not hitherto made the least motion, nor has so much as a patrol passed his limits. His right yesterday continued at Jaromirz, and his left at Schurtz. I wait to hear of his first motion, to judge of what can be his true plan, and to inform you of the positive manœuvres you are to make. While he shall continue quiet, I cannot send you any precise orders.

M 3

We

We have only to wait with a little patience ; and you will do well to spread a rumour that I am on my march, to join you, with a corps of infantry ; and that we shall pass the Neisse at Camenz, or at Patſchkau, or wherever you please, to attack De Ville in his camp at Kamnitz, while you go and take post toward Glatz, in order to alarm these gentry on all sides.

You may likewise disturb them on the side of Silberberg, as if there were a design to march for Neurode. Sometimes spread reports that you are obliged to march toward Breslau, to oppose the Russians, who make incursions ; and this in order to amuse and deceive them, by every possible means.

We are on the eve of action : some five or six days will inform us what are the designs of the enemy ; but, as soon as he shall make any attempt, for the love of God make no detachment, but act with all your forces united ; by which I understand twenty-one battalions of infantry, the free battalion of Lüderitz, twenty-five squadrons of cuirassiers and dragoons, and sixteen squadrons of hussars.

You are partly acquainted with my ideas. It will be impossible to predict all that may happen ; but, as soon as the enemy shall begin to manoeuvre, which will further inform me what his

his

his intentions are, I shall be able to send you more precise instructions. Should the main army of the enemy take post opposite me, you will be very able to resist a detachment; provided your corps shall continually keep nine days bread in advance. In case of necessity, the cavalry must forage.

Should the enemy only present a mask on this side, and should I perceive that his greatest force shall post itself on the side of Friedland, I will immediately incline thither; not to dispute the passage with him, but to cut him off from Bohemia. I shall thus oblige him either to come and attack me, to a disadvantage, or to march into the plain, to join the corps of De Ville as soon as possible, that he may obtain bread.

In the first case, if you will march beside him to a certain distance, you will always be able to take him in flank or in rear, when we shall come to action; and, in the second, you must harass him, that when he leaves the mountains, on the side of Reichenbach, you may engage advantageously with his rear-guard.

You may further spoil the road from Silberberg to Neurode, by strewing it with brambles, and rendering it impracticable for carriages; in order that, should he wish to pass with one

column on this side, it will become absolutely impossible for him to drag his artillery, without which you very well know he will not march.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

P. S. I have this moment received a letter from Bülow, by which I am informed that the corps of Beck is ready to march ; and a hussar is this instant arrived from Politz, who deposes that the pandours, the hussars, and some German infantry arrived the day before yesterday near Politz. He adds that the Austrian officers spoke, yesterday morning, with the peasants of the vicinity of Politz ; and promised them much money, if they would but shew them a hill, on which they wished that night to reconnoitre our camp.

Another deserter deposes that the army was to march to-day ; but I have yet received no intelligence of his march, otherwise I should write to you. As soon as I can learn any thing conclusive, I will inform you of it. But we approach the catastrophe, and the affair must be over in twice twenty-four hours. In the mean time it is necessary to be alert, and make all necessary movements as quickly as possible.

I

FREDERIC.

LETTER L.

From the King.

Reich-Hennerdorf, June 9, 1759.

YOU must have heard that the fourteen battalions of De Ville have marched from Seuf-tenberg to Jaromirz ; and, in like manner, you must know that five battalions of pandours have left the corps of Beck, to join the grand army. These circumstances declare what the project is, which the man with the papal toka has formed. I perceive his forces all incline to the side of Trautenau ; consequently, he will here come and attack me, in my fort.

Should this be confirmed, the following is my chain of reasoning: First you must make every arrangement, that you may join Bülow, on the first signal, with all possible speed.

I conclude therefore that, should the whole force of the enemy incline this way, you must march with your corps from Friedland to Grif-sau, and must support my left ; then, having well beaten the enemy, we shall only have to drive the rest of those gentry that incommode us, out of Silesia.

On the first signal you must march to Tann-
hausen ; you must next detach the nine bat-
talions

talions which are there for Griffau immediately, and follow them as soon as you can.

But, should it happen that a column of the enemy should endeavour to penetrate through Friedland, I am still of the same opinion, which I have before explained to you, in my preceding letter.

I here from precaution send you the route of the two columns, that you may employ them in case of need; supposing that Daun should come here with his whole forces, and that you should march to join me. Should this happen, you may encamp on the height of the Anna, behind Griffau, with the abby in your front, your face toward Schœnberg, the village of Neune at the foot of your left, and Zieder at the foot of your right.

Such are the preparations, my friend, which you must make.

If, imperceptibly, you can further file off some troops on the side of Reichenbach, that your other motions may become more easy, it will be so much the better.

I shall write to you by the courier, and shall inform you of all the motions of the enemy which shall come to my knowledge; and, in proportion as the enemy shall act, so as better

to

to explain what are his designs, I will in consequence send you further intelligence.

Adieu, my dear friend; I very tenderly embrace you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R L I.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Franckenstein, June 9, 1759.

I HAVE just received your majesty's orders, with the plan of the march, in two columns, for Tannhausen and Landshut.

Be it supposed, sire, that the enemy will incline, with all his strength, on the side of your majesty, and that I am to march between Grissau and St. Anne, to support your left, I must then make a great circuit, in marching toward Landshut; and I believe that, from Schwartzwalde, I may take to the left, toward the castle of Conradswalde, and from thence cross the woods, to occupy this post.

I entreat your majesty to let the roads be reconnoitred, in order to know whether I can march in two columns with artillery; for this will

will greatly shorten my route. The distance thither is about nine miles.

There is nothing new passes here, except that general Werner informs me general De Ville has ordered a part of his corps to advance, from the camp of Weidenau, as far as Sorgsdorf, near Johannisberg.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LII.

From the King.

June 10, 1759.

I SEND you, my dear friend, the change of the columns, which becomes possible, because I have ordered the road of Feldhammer to be repaired, which will be ready this evening.

They reconnoitred us the day before yesterday, but they could not discover any thing, except the end of a hill, with a few tents; by which the gentlemen were not a little embarrassed. Laudohn has been ordered to Schurtz, where he was yesterday, and there a council was held.

The grand army has hitherto remained motionless. The man with the sanctified toka must of
neces-

necessity soon do something. I shall tranquilly wait till he shall please to resolve, and shall determine accordingly.

I employ every possible stratagem to obtain intelligence; and, after combining all I can hear, I now and then make a guess.

Our incertitude cannot long continue; and, as soon as the armies shall put themselves in action, they must come to blows; this will throw light on the state of affairs.

Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Franckenstein, June 10, 1759.

TO facilitate the march which I shall perhaps be obliged to make, I this day have ordered the battalion of Rath grenadiers to Silberberg; general Ramin, with the four battalions of Kalkstein and of Manteufel, to Weigelsdorf; and the three regiments of cuirassiers of Seidlitz, Bredow, and Vafold, to Mittel and Nieder-Peile.

General Meyer, with four battalions and the regiment of Bayreuth dragoons, is posted at Peterfwalde.

Peterwalde. There only remains therefore, in these environs, the regiment of Fouquet, two battalions of grenadiers, and the Werner hussars, which in case of a march have the farthest to go.

As soon as these troops shall likewise quit this country, general De Ville will probably pass the Neisse, and cause his corps to advance.

He yesterday struck his camp near Weidenau, and has again pitched his tents near Sorgsdorf, in the vicinity of Johannisberg. His head quarters are at Wildschut.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R L I V .

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

— Franckenstein, June 11, 1759.

IT has been the custom of the Austrians to expose their allies, and occasion them to be beaten.

This maxim prince Charles followed at Strigau, with the Saxons; Grün remained a mere spectator, at Kesselsdorf; they peaceably saw the Saxons reduced by you at Pirna; and your majesty

majesty will see that Daun will follow the same principles. He will cause the Russians to advance, and will make some demonstrations, but will leave them to be beaten.

Dé Ville has marched forward with his corps, from Sorgsdorf to Weisbach and Gostitz, beyond Patfchkau, always backed by the mountains; on which I caused the bridges of Patfchkau and of Ottmachau to be broken down that night.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LV.

From the King.

June 12, 1759.

I KNOW not what our enemies will do; but I begin to believe, my dear general, that we shall remain three weeks longer in our present position. Daun has not yet assembled his grenadiers in a body. Lascy has not reconnoitred us.

They are bargaining, at Schurtz, with the farmers, to forage the green corn. Fermer has advanced to Konitz with a large part of his army, which had taken the road of Tempelburg,

burg, and turned toward Posenania. I believe the army will arrive there about the 16th.

We shall then see what our sanctified animal will undertake.

I have my fears for Lusatia, and would almost wager that our man will march toward Friedberg, and Greiffenberg.

Let us wait patiently; and if, between this and then, you have need of more troops, you may send for them to Franckenstein; provided the post of Tannhausen be suffered to remain.

Farewel, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Franckenstein, June 13, 1759-

THIS is only to send your majesty three of your chasseurs, having the honour to inform you that every thing remains in the same state.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER LVII.

From the King.

Reich-Hennersdorf, June 14, 1759.

I RECEIVED your letter of the 13th of this month. The intelligence I have just heard, but which I will not warrant, is that Daun has orders, cost what it will, to penetrate into Silesia; and that, in consequence, he has detached fifteen thousand foot, to join Laudohn at Trautenau.

I believe not a word of this, because it does not appear to me probable; and, should these people attempt any thing on that side, be persuaded they do not very well understand their business.

A deserter, who left the army four days ago, affirms that the grenadiers of the grand army are still with the regiments, which does not look like any attempt, or like an ensuing march. If Daun wished to make any attack on this post, he would certainly place all his grenadiers in the van, and still would not have enough.

Neither has Lascy been to reconnoitre us; and so long as I shall not hear the name of that man on our limits, I shall never persuade myself that the enemy has any serious intentions of coming hither.

VOL. XIII.

N

You

You may depend on being informed of the smallest circumstance which shall happen to me.

Do not neglect to assemble your thirteen battalions, and your cavalry, near Franckenstein; that, in case of need, you may be ready for Wartha. I keep Bülow between us, with his eight battalions and his six squadrons of hussars, that I may send them to you, should it be so necessary; or make them join me, should I foresee the enemy will exert himself principally on this side. I will inform you of all, in proportion as I shall see what the designs of the enemy are.

D'O does me good service, on the present occasion; and, of all the intelligence which I endeavour to procure myself, not sparing money, what he sends is the best.

The intention of the Austrians indubitably is to inundate the county of Glatz, marching through the three defiles by which it is entered; and I begin to imagine that the corps of De Ville is destined to block up the passage of Wartha.

If you find you can make no use of your cuirassiers, you have only to tell me so, and I shall be sufficiently inclined to send them to Dohna, who may employ them to some purpose, on the present occasion, against the Russians. I take
this

this opportunity to inform you that Dohna is at Landsberg, and that it seems the Russians intend to divide into two corps; the most considerable of which appears to assemble on the side of Posenia, and the weakest on the side of Tempelburg. Dohna has only thirty-five squadrons of heavy horse, and twenty-two of hussars. If we have any that are useless here, whether it be you or I, it is but just to send them to him, concerning which I wait your answer.

I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LETTER LVIII.

From the King.

June 14, 1759.

ACCORDING to all the intelligence I have received, I ought to suppose the project of our enemies is to undertake the siege of Glatz. Collect your forces therefore, my friend, chiefly on the side of Franckenstein; that you may be continually ready to occupy the post of Wartha.

I write to-day to Treskow, that he may send you the battalion of Blankensée, which you have always had with you.

N 2

Bülow

Bülow must remain in his post, till the grand army of the enemy shall be determinate in its motions.

Such are the consequences of a defensive war; a hundred thousand things must be thought of, and plans laid for all possible events.

Ramin may return to Wartha, should you so think proper.

Adieu, my dear friend; I embrace you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LIX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Frankenstein, June 15, 1759.

THE thirteen battalions, and the three regiments of cavalry, will be this day ready, agreeable to the orders of your majesty.

General Ramin, with his four battalions, will be at the post of Wartha; general Bredow, with the three regiments of cavalry, at Olbersdorf and Peterwitz.

General Schenkendorf, with his five battalions and the Gerßdorf hussars, remains near general Bülow.

General Meyer, with his dragoons and his four battalions, is at Frankenberg and Baumgarten.

I am

I am happy, sire, to find the zeal, the probity, and the merit of D'O are known to you. People like him are the more estimable because they are uncommon. He will follow the example of Phocion, should he ever have need of hemloc.

It is not possible, sire, for me to say whether I shall hereafter have need of the cuirassiers; since I know not whether it will be my fate to come to action on the hills or in the plain. I appeal to your majesty's foresight; if it be your pleasure, I will detach a regiment, and you have only to inform me what route it is to take.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LX.

From the King.

Undated.

I SHOULD find great difficulty, my dear friend, in informing you what shall happen, while the enemy shall remain inactive. This is a thing impossible to divine.

I see that the end which he promises to himself, by his operations, is to take Glatz.

I divine the means which he will use, to accomplish

comply his purpose ; but, as these means are very numerous, I may very easily be deceived. In this incertitude it is difficult to predict, and we must wait till it shall please his high excellence * to declare what is his plan.

I wait with patience for the plan of which this consecrated animal shall be delivered.

We are alert, and keep our ears erect in our camp ; like a greyhound waiting till the hare shall leave her form.

I have much bad news, a collection of tippling house tales of the enemy's army, with which I shall not trouble you. As soon as I am informed of any truths I shall send you intelligence.

Ferner advances, like the regent of a college, followed by his pedants. Perhaps the Austrians are waiting for him ; but, be it as it may, we shall be obliged to find means to relieve ourselves from our difficulties.

I know you think like me, and I have nothing new to add.

Adieu, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

* Marshal Daun.

L E T-

LETTER LXI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Peterwitz, June 24, 1759.

THE corps yesterday morning occupied the camp near Peterwitz, on land which is not sown; the right toward Peterwitz, and the left toward Franckenstein, having Baumgarten and Riegerdorf in the front.

General De Ville, finding himself still near Wildschutz, has detached some troops from his corps, along the mountains, toward Landeck.

Report says this detachment consists of five thousand men, but it probably is not so strong.

To mask his march, he caused some ulans and cavalry to advance as far as Weisswasser, and Reichstein.

When we sent to reconnoitre them, they were seen to retreat among the mountains; but they afterward returned to their post. They have also occupied Patschkau.

According to advice sent by general Treskow, as well as by lieutenant-colonel Saks, general Renard, with his light troops, has inclosed Cosel, on this side and beyond the Oder.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Peterwitz, June 25, 1759.

I WAIT with extreme impatience for the accomplishment of the good news, for which your majesty has led me to hope.

Can it be possible, sire, that the son of the late Christian * should wish to enter the lists ?

Were it at first only on his own frontiers, that would be something. The first step always is productive of another.

I send the *tage-liste* * to your majesty. The brigades of Ramin, Schenkendorf, and Bülow are there included. There are only a hundred and forty-four men wanting, of the calculation which you, sire, have made of sixty thousand ; including the battalion of Lattorf, and those of Le Noble and Lüderitz.

I hope that Tauenzien, to whom I have written, will soon render them complete.

The *monats-listes* † will be sent to-morrow to colonel Krusemark.

L. M. FOUQUET,

* Of Denmark.

† Day-list.

‡ Monthly-lists.

L E T-

LETTER LXIII.

From the King.

Reich-Hennerdorf, June 25, 1759.

I RECEIVED your letter of the 25th of June, and I thank you for the lists which you have sent me. I find, according to this account, including officers, subalterns, drummers, and gunners, that the sum total amounts to sixty-four thousand men.

The enemy has marched, or at least he has made a motion, to-day. I seek to gain intelligence, and between this and to-morrow morning I suppose I shall know exactly what is transacting. Nothing presses, or obliges me to act too hastily.

I am not certain that the army of Daun is on the march; I only know that a part of the corps of Laudohn is in motion.

We must at present keep in continual readiness. I expect to hear from you of the motions of De Ville, from D'O of those of Harfch, and from Bülow of those of Beck. When I shall have combined the whole, I shall determine on the part which it is requisite to take.

The good news which I imagine I may predict to you will never come from Denmark.

I

I am

I am not yet sufficiently informed of who it is who has marched, or of the route which is taken : till I have discovered this perfectly, I shall not move ; especially as, though the enemy be in action, nothing presses me.

Your report of the 24th of this month has been given me, and I should be glad to know whether the detachment of general De Ville consist of horse or of foot.

It seems to me that a fortnight may yet elapse, before the enemy will begin his operations ; nor shall we till then be able to penetrate his real views.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXIV.

From the King.

Reich-Hennersdorf, June 25, 1759.

BECK, as I am informed, wishes to try his fortune on the side of Bülow. But do not let that disturb you ; it is our affair.

I believe, in despite of the plans of Daun, he will find himself obliged to be in motion by the 28th or the 30th.

I shall

I shall then be attentive to the first step he shall take ; it will discover his plan, and will enable me to write positively to you, on the manner in which it will be necessary to act.

Do not at least accuse me of being either restless or impatient, for they do but trifle with us.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Peterwitz, June 26, 1759.

THE corps of De Ville still occupies the camp near Wildschutz. He has advanced posts at Weisswasser, of about five hundred croats, and some hussars and ulans. Parschkau is disgarnished of Austrian troops, and is visited by the patrols of both parties.

It is said that the detachment, sent toward Landeck, consists of infantry, of hussars, and of croats. Some affirm it to be five thousand strong, others say three thousand.

The deserters who have last arrived depose that it consists only of three battalions ; but they can neither name what battalions nor relate any thing with certainty.

The

The forage which they exact, in upper Silesia, should be collected at Neustadt.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R L X V I .

From the King.

June 27, 1759.

THE motion of the enemy, which I mentioned to you in my last, is found to be absolutely false. The peasants and the hemp-sellers had spread it; and a heavy rain had deceived our patrols, by making it impossible for them to see. Some officers imagined they saw things that did not exist, and their fancy supplied the place of truth.

The troops of the foe are precisely in the place where they were; there has not been any removal. I amuse them by every kind of tale, which I spread according to my pleasure; but I foresee some change toward the conclusion of the month, or the beginning of the next.

In a few days I shall be able to send you great news. The enemy had proposed to begin his operations on the 15th of July.

I flatter myself his plans will be overthrown,
and

and that he will be obliged to form more than one, before the close of the campaign.

Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXVII.

From the King.

Reich-Hennerdorf, June 29, 1759.

THE enemy marched yesterday. The grand army is gone to Jung-Buntzlau. Laudohn is encamped at Prausnitz. Beck should be at a place called Horzetz, and general Harfch is marched to Jaromirz. Their bakery is gone to Teuschbrod.

I freely own I can with difficulty imagine what all this can mean.

In the mean time you may send some two hundred dragoons, and as many hussars, to Glatz, to gain further intelligence.

To-morrow I shall send a van-guard near Trautenau, that I may be informed of what is passing, and to keep these people in check, while this shall continue.

Dohna has marched against the Russians; the latter,

latter, who have thirty thousand men, are divided into three corps.

Dohna has marched to meet that in the centre, at Nakal; and, as his project appears to me to be infallible, I previously announce the good news which must arrive.

I have just taken Schatzlar, where we have made a captain of cavalry, three hussars, some officers, and about a hundred pandours, prisoners.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXVIII.

From General Fouquet.

Peterwitz, June 30, 1759.

I CONGRATULATE you, sire, on the retreat of the Austrian army, and of the advantage which your majesty has gained, by advancing and seizing on Schatzlar.

If you are unable to give me the key to the enigma, still less able am I to divine its meaning.

According to what I conjecture, however, I suppose marshal Daun endeavours to remove

your majesty from the advantageous post which you occupy ; or else that prince Henry has made an incursion into Bohemia, which your majesty must know better than I.

I immediately detached captain Szaley, with a hundred and twenty hussars and two hundred dragoons, toward the county of Glatz ; and I have provided him with necessary directions, relative to the intelligence which he may communicate to us.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXIX.

From the King.

June 30, 1759.

I SEND you an account of the march which the enemy has made. You will see what palpable gross stratagem he has employed, to draw us from our post ; but he will not succeed.

I this day have sent Wedel to Trautenau, to observe him, and to obtain intelligence of what he is doing ; and have ordered Seidlitz to advance to Lahn, to take the detachment of the enemy which marches through Bæhmisch-Eiche..

I have supposed it was necessary to inform
you

you of all this, that you might be perfectly acquainted with every thing that passes.

Bülow being in this situation, and of no use at Tannhausen, I have sent for him to come here; leaving however the free battalion, and colonel Gerisdorf, at the same post, with orders to make his reports to you and to me.

Adieu, my dear general. As soon as I shall hear any thing worth communicating, I will immediately send you word.

I embrace you with all my heart.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Peterwitz, July 1, 1759.

AFTER all the motions which the Austrians have just made, I think that of two things they will choose one, or perhaps both at once; that is, they will march in full force toward Saxony, or detach a corps toward the march of Brandenburg.

All will go well, provided Dohna can but soon vanquish the Russians.

According to the report of deserters, from the
corps

corps of De Ville, they have within these eight days received there thirty cannon, twelve six and three pounders, and five howitzers, but no mortars.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXI.

From the King.

July 2, 1759.

WE must not be so very impatient, my dear general. The project of Daun was in conjunction with the manœuvres which the Russians were to make; but I suppose that Dohna yesterday overthrew one of the Russian corps. Of this however I cannot gain information before the 3d, or the 4th.

The grand plan of Daun will thus be wholly deranged. He marches for Reichenberg; Jahnus is at Prausnitz, Harfch at Jaromirz, and Beck at Skalitz.

I have sent Seidlitz to Lahn; the enemy will take the road of Marck-Liffa.

I have two principal points to attend to; the one is to cover Landshut, the other is to prevent them from cutting me off from Glatz. This is what occupies me at present: the thing is very

difficult, but I must nevertheless endeavour to accomplish my task.

The cannon of De Ville are only field artillery.

Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Peterwitz, July 2; 1759.

THE three regiments of horse of Seidlitz, Bredow, and Wafold, are on their march, and will to-day enter Bægendorf, near Schweidnitz.

The detachments of the margrave Henry, and of Ramin, have in like manner retreated, and will to-day march as far as Hohen-Gierdorf; to-morrow they will be at Landshut.

Captain Szaley, with a hundred and twenty of the Gersdorf hussars, and the detachment of two hundred dragoons, which were sent two days ago to Glatz, have likewise received orders to return to their regiments.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T-

LETTER LXXIII.

From the King.

July 3, 1759.

I HAVE received, my dear general, your report of the 2d of this month. You did exceedingly well to send me the regiments entire, according to what I myself wrote ; for were they weakened, by detachments, they would not render any very essential service.

You have the regiment of Werner, which you may employ for necessary detachments.

General Laudohn is arrived at Reichenberg, and there has joined general Wehla.

I imagine I shall be informed to-day whether the grand army be to follow general Laudohn, or whether it be still to remain near Jung-Buntz-lau.

Should this be so, we must proceed very cautiously ; over haste might be exceedingly dangerous. I expect precise intelligence from lieutenant-colonel D'O, whether there be or be not any troops in the vicinity of Jaromirz.

Our men yesterday went as far as Koenigshoff, where they found about eight or ten regiments.

Beck remains near Arnau ; for which reason

I think it will not be very difficult for lieutenant-colonel D'O to discover whether general Harsch have left any forces in his rear, near Jaromirz, or whether his whole corps have marched with him to Kœnigshoff. It is very necessary I should know all this, for the regulation of my conduct; for, as soon as I perceive the enemy approaching Kœnigshoff, and that his greatest strength is on the march toward Friedland, it will in that case be necessary for you to call in the battalions, which are in the province of Glatz.

Should I be obliged to join D'O, you will again encamp near Landshut, in the place that you before occupied; but, before you undertake any thing, wait for more positive orders.

I embrace you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXIV.

From the King.

July 4, 1759.

AS I am at present certain that the Austrian forces have turned on the side of Kœnigshoff, it will be necessary to take our arrangements as follow :

You

You will have the goodness to call in to you all the Ramin brigade, and to march so as to be here on the 7th.

There is a thing I have at heart, and which you may further execute; this will be to send Le Noble to Scharffeneck and to Politz, to destroy all the fortifications of these gentry at Hutberg; and on his return he may ruin all the redoubts, and abatis, which have been thrown up near Bergicht, and Wernerstdorf.

I take these previous precautions in order that, having destroyed all these posts, be it supposed that the enemy should wish to undertake the siege of Glatz, our entrance on the side of Braunau may be free.

I shall depart from this place to-morrow, for Lahn, with my main van-guard, and I will leave you four battalions remaining here; that is, the brigade of Schenkendorf, with the free battalions of Angenelli and of Lüderitz.

The post that I have occupied with the army will not suit you, because its extent is too great, and I imagine you will reassume your former redoubts. I shall leave you here, to-morrow, some howitzers and artillery.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

P. S. The forces of the enemy being at Koenigshoff, you must of necessity come here. You may march this evening.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Peterwitz, July 4, 1759.

ACCORDING to your majesty's orders, I have this day called in the brigade of Ramin. To-morrow at break of day I shall depart, and on the 6th I shall be with the vanguard at Landshut; the corps will follow, and will arrive there on the 7th.

The patroles, who have been at Weisswasser, relate that the corps of De Ville has this day left the camp of Wildschütz, and has directed its march toward Goldenstein.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T-

LETTER LXXVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Waldenburg, July 5, 1759.

I HAVE just arrived here, with two battalions of grenadiers and some hussars; to-morrow, about noon, I shall be at Landshut. The corps, which to-day is in the environs of Leutmannsdorf, will take up its quarters here to-morrow; and the day after, the seventh, will be at the camp of Landshut.

After the receipt of your majesty's letter, I immediately sent Le Noble, with his battalion, toward Braunau and Politz, to destroy the abatis and entrenchments of the Austrians in those parts. He was accompanied by a hundred of the Werner hussars.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER LXXVII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, the 7th and 8th of July, 1759.

I ARRIVED here yesterday morning, at eight o'clock, with my vanguard; the whole corps occupied the camp this day at noon.

O 4

Yesterday,

Yesterday, more of the Austrians entered Schatzlar, and the whole corps of De Ville has taken its route toward Freywalde.

I keep up a continual correspondence with general Treskow, and lieutenant-colonel D'O. They both wrote to me yesterday, telling me that which the first related to your majesty, concerning general de Ville, and which is further confirmed by other intelligence. It is added that the same corps is to form a junction with general Harfch.

It is affirmed that a part of the corps of this general has advanced as far as Trautenau.

I wait more certain information, from the express which has been sent.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXVIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

The camp near Lahn,
July 10, 1759.

I HAVE received your report of the 8th of July, and I perceive at present that I acted with great propriety, in sending you the regiment of Neifs; because nothing will pass on your side; and, in case troops were there necessary,

sary, we shall continually have the road open, to send them to that town.

Daun is at Marck-Lissa, Laudohn near Greiffenberg. I shall be obliged to assemble all my forces, to give them battle; therefore about the time of conflict, which I refer to the 15th, I shall be unable to afford you any assistance.

According to my estimate, De Ville has ten thousand, and Harfch twelve thousand men; and you, with the reinforcement of the regiment of Mosel, will have nearly nineteen thousand; with whom, by the goodness of your post, you may be able to oppose your enemy.

I am your very affectionate king.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, July 9, 1759.

COLONEL Le Noble is this morning arrived, in our camp, from his expedition to Friedland.

He has destroyed all the fortifications, and abatis, which he found in the vicinage of Politz, Hutberg, Potisch, and Bergicht.

But

But more than two thousand pandours, and huffars, having yesterday appeared, on the heights of Politz, and some parties of the enemy advancing as far as Wernerisdorf, to cut off his retreat on the side of Halbstadt, he withdrew last night, and was obliged to abandon a redoubt, from which the enemy drove the workmen.

From Friedland, news is brought that four hundred pandours, dragoons, and huffars, were there seen, this morning, who have seized on the burgomaster and two senators, because they were unable immediately to bring them the quantity of wine, brandy, and meat, which they demanded.

Ten or twelve regiments are encamped near Trautenau, under the command of general Harfch, who arrived there on the 6th.

People from Starckstadt have affirmed that yesterday a corps passed through Starckstadt, on its march to Politz.

From these reports it appears that the corps of Harfch is approaching us.

This intelligence is just confirmed, by a letter which general Jahnus yesterday sent me, from Schatzlar, by trumpet.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXX.

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL, The camp of Schenk-Seiffen,
 July 10, 1759.

I HAVE received your report of the 9th of this month, and it is at present necessary that you should think of some means to drive the pandours and hussars out of these countries, that they may be prevented from taking us in flank.

It seems to me the enemy would have no great inclination to advance, were you to oppose him by even a feeble post.

I am, &c.

It is requisite you should act with a little more malice, and not permit the enemy to take up his quarters under your nose, at Friedland.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXXI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E, Landshut, July 10, 1759.

THE post that the corps occupies is well situated, and it is to be hoped may maintain itself

self against general Harfch. Should he send a detachment on the side of Braunau, and Friedland, circumstances will not admit of his being opposed by another detachment, nor of a separation of the corps ; such detachment being continually exposed to be cut off, I must necessarily send reinforcements.

However, in pursuance of your majesty's orders, I have posted three hundred men of the free battalions, and a hundred hussars, near Friedland, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Lüderitz.

I learn, from different accounts, that the party of the enemy, which yesterday was at Friedland, is retired on the side of Schoemberg, and that it yesterday received a reinforcement of horse and foot.

An express brings intelligence that the frontier villages, situated in the district of Braunau, Aderfbach, Merkelsdorf, Wackelsdorf, Wernerfdorf, Neuforge, Halbstadt, and Rupperfdorf, are occupied by the enemy.

Three Austrian hussars have this morning announced, at Schoemberg, that a battalion of pandours and four hundred hussars, who were at Bartelsdorf, will this day enter that place.

It is further reported, from Liebau, that the Austrians who are posted at Rehhorn are continually reinforced.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXXII.

From the King.

July 11, 1759.

YOU wish, my dear general, to draw the enemy into a snare; but you deceive yourself: he will not attack, but means to blockade you.

You must act a little spitefully; and, on the first opportunity, fall on some corps which is ill posted, and take him somewhat rudely by the ears.

I am to-day assured that Daun is entrenching himself near Marck-Lissa; I cannot tell why, for I certainly have no intention to attack him there.

Should the enemy mean to penetrate with all his forces through Friedland, march on his rear. You have the road open through Conradswalde, and you have the heights of Friedland in the woods, as far as Cider.

You can effect nothing at Rehhorn; but the case is very different on the side of Schoemberg.

In fine, I leave you to act as you shall yourself think proper, and I only communicate my ideas, because the ground in those parts is well known to me.

I am here in a very strong camp, and in case of necessity am able to detach four battalions and ten squadrons, and yet not suffer more or
less

less than a hundred thousand men to insult me :
be under no fears therefore for me.

The Russians cry like children : the poor
babies have not above forty thousand men ; and
Dohna, as it is affirmed, will not suffer them to
move.

Report says Daun means to send a detach-
ment to their aid, through Lusatia ; but it is
forgotten that my brother is ready to cut down
this detachment, previous to its arrival.

Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXXIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 13, 1759.

I AM this moment informed, from Schœm-
berg, that it is the intention of the Austrians to
advance, to-morrow, in three columns, and at-
tack the post which I occupy.

One of these columns is to march through
Friedland, another through Schœmberg, and
the third through Liebau.

The frontier villages are full of hussars, ulans,
and pandours.

Lieutenant-

Lieutenant-colonel Lüderitz sends me intelligence from Friedland that more than two thousand men, consisting of hussars, pandours, and Hungarian infantry, are advancing to attack him : I have sent him orders to retreat, and not to wait their attack.

I will give them the best reception in my power, should they come hither.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXXIV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 14, 1759.

THE result of all the manœuvres of the Austrians is that yesterday, about six in the evening, they attacked the post of Friedland, on three sides at once.

Lieutenant-colonel Lüderitz was advertised of their arrival.

Though I told him by word of mouth, and wrote to the same effect, to him and to captain Rosenkrantz, that, should they be attacked by a strong party of the enemy, they must retire through the woods ; he nevertheless determined to wait their attack, in his post, and to defend himself.

The

The Austrians made their attack suddenly, in front, and on the two flanks; they have entirely dispersed the detachment of three hundred men of the free battalions, and have made many prisoners. Few of our men are yet come in, and report says colonel Lüderitz is fallen.

The detachment of hussars, under captain Rosenkrantz, is almost entirely here; no more than six men are missing.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXXV.

From the King.

The camp of Schmottseiffen,
July 17, 1759.

I AM vexed, my dear general, to hear, from your report of the 12th of this month, that your orders were so ill executed by lieutenant-colonel Lüderitz, in his post near Friedland.

Do not by any means suffer the foe to occupy this post; it is, on the contrary, absolutely necessary to drive him to a distance from you.

You may fall upon him in flank, by the road of Conradswalde, and send him to take the air somewhere else.

It appears to me that the enemy made you believe

believe he meant to attack you to-day, that he might prevent you from succouring the post near Friedland.

By this accident, the two free battalions of Wiede are, beyond a doubt, rendered inactive for two or three months. Open a road to the free battalions, and ruin every other passage, so that they may not be attacked in the rear.

I have left only a hundred men in this post, that they may retreat with the greater ease.

I am, &c.

Revenge must absolutely be taken, and this stain washed away in the blood of the enemy.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXXVI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 15, 1759.

THE Austrians, not having occupied the post of Friedland, retired the day before yesterday to their frontier villages, Merkelsdorf, Adlersbach, Weckelsdorf, and Wernersdorf.

I cannot prevent them from sending their patrols as far as the environs of Friedland; but

VOL. XIII.

P

your

your majesty may rest persuaded I will not suffer them to occupy this post, and that I will seize any opportunity in which I may be enabled to strike some effectual blow.

Should however a detachment of the enemy endeavour to penetrate near Friedland, and to march among the mountains, I shall offer no opposition, but shall endeavour to cut off their retreat.

Of the detachment of free battalions, two officers, five subalterns, and a hundred and forty men are arrived here; perhaps there are many more still concealed among the mountains. The six missing hussars have also made their appearance.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXXVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 16, 1759.

IF the enemy begin to entrench himself, and draw parallels on the side of your majesty, his demonstrations here are of a very different nature.

Labourers are commanded on my right, toward Kolben and the Græntzbauden, opposite Schmiedeberg,

Schmiedeberg, to open the abatis; and the Austrians have spread a report that they mean to penetrate on this side.

Jahnus and Simbschen are at Golden-Else, Schatzlar, and those environs; from whence the first has sent me a letter, from lieutenant-colonel Lüdériz, who is a prisoner at Trautenau, where Harfch and De Ville hold their quarters, with the greatest part of their forces.

They have received a reinforcement of artillery there, of thirty pieces. They have detached a regiment of dragoons, and two battalions of pandours, who remain on the frontiers of Merckelsdorf and Weckelsdorf. They begin to open the roads to drag cannon thither, and to repair the abatis and the entrenchments which Le Noble had in part destroyed, and to send their patrols as far as the environs of Friedland.

I went this morning beyond Schœmberg, toward Bertelsdorf and Adlersbach, in order to reconnoitre; and I found there were no means of accomplishing my purpose. We discovered posts of dragoons, hussars, and pandours, on the hills; but none of them descended in pursuit of us.

From these manœuvres I imagine, sire, they are endeavouring to induce me to make detachments, that they may afterward attack this post

with their whole force, for which I have no apprehensions, while it shall be occupied by the corps which is now there.

The regiment of Mosel arrived this morning.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R LXXXVIII.

From the King.

The camp of Schmottseiffen,
July 18, 1759.

I HAVE received your report of the 16th of this month. After having calculated the strength of the enemy, and made full allowance for all his forces, I cannot make the total of his corps amount to more than eighteen thousand men : now, a corps of nineteen thousand men defending itself against eighteen thousand, in a good post, certainly ought to find great advantages.

I know your position, because I was there long enough, and have studied the ground minutely. You can neither attack the post of Schatzlar nor that of Trautenau; nor can you penetrate through Altdorff; it is a murderous pass.

The enemy has so entirely destroyed the road
which

which leads to Böhmisch-Johrfdorf, by the large hewn stones which they have strewed over it, that you cannot pass them; unless the hussars should alight and lead their horses.

The post of Bergicht might be taken, but it would cost many men, and the game will not pay the expence of cards.

You have nothing for it but ambuscades; but they must be strong, in order that, should the enemy make any attempt, as he will not fail to do, you may give a good account of him.

Should any troops come on the side of Pass, they must immediately be attacked in the rear.

You are stronger in infantry than these gentry; their cavalry will scarcely be able to act in any part of that country. Should they approach with two thousand men, make a detachment of four thousand on their rear.

The ambuscades which may be laid for them are, on the road which leads from Liebau to Lindenau, in the hollow way of the fourteen Nothhelfer, the environs of Scherffenberg, and in the woods which are on the side of Friedland.

You are necessarily obliged to have some moveable posts.

For example, you cannot dispense with having some on the heights beside Weißbach.

Let these posts be well informed that they are placed there only to give intelligence; and that any officer, who should unseasonably wait till the enemy might come up, would be tried by a council of war, and punished.

That you may well understand the plan of the enemy, and of his entrenchments, I will explain the affair to you.

Daun has ordered Gemingen to join him, who had been detached with about seven thousand men to the army of the Empire; and he has caused an entrenched camp to be thrown up, between Lauban and Marck-Lissa, which camp I believe he will enter this evening.

Though Dohna has behaved very ill, in counteracting the Russians, his passage of the Wartha has occasioned Soltikow to cry aloud, imagining himself to be cut off from Thorn. He calls with all his might for succours.

The court of Vienna has determined to send a detachment of thirteen thousand men to his aid.

Laudohn is to command this detachment, and is to march through Sagan for Croffen, there to pass the Oder, and thus endeavour to join the Russians.

I yesterday detached the prince of Wirtemberg, with six battalions, two regiments of dragoons, and the hussars of Buntzlau.

My

My brother Henry will immediately march for Sagan, to disturb this detachment on its road, and send it back to air itself the way it came,

While Daun shall continue at Lauban, and I shall keep my camp here; I shall be sufficiently in force to maintain my situation.

But should Laudohn be beaten, and sent back, I imagine he will endeavour to enter Silesia on this side. Should that happen before the prince of Wirtemberg can join me, I shall be obliged to borrow three battalions of infantry, and a regiment of dragoons from you; of which I pledge myself to make good use.

But should Daun think proper to remain in his entrenchments, I will not ask you for so much as a drummer.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

At present you perceive, my friend, what is the affair in question. Daun will undertake nothing; at least not till he has disentangled the Russians, which I flatter myself I shall prevent him from effecting.

The court of Vienna, or perhaps Despair, will then oblige him to take other measures.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R LXXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 17, 1759.

I BELIEVE a general attack is here intended; and that it will be attempted by Harfch, De Ville, and Jahnus.

Jahnus arrived this very night, at eleven o'clock, near Schœmberg and Liebau, with a corps of two battalions of grenadiers, two thousand pandours, four squadrons of huffars, a pulk of ulans, the regiment of Birkenfeld cuirassiers, the regiments of Modena, Saxe-Gotha, and the Saint Ignon dragoons, and a squadron of prince Charles's dragoons.

I went to reconnoitre them this morning, and I pushed forward, on one side, beyond Liebau and Dittersbach, and on the other from Gruffau as far as Ullerfdorf; where he supported his left among the hills of Ullerfdorf, and his right behind Schœmberg.

My project was to attack him on his left to-morrow; but he continues his march in two columns, the first through Peterfdorf and Bertelsdorf, toward Schœmberg; and the other through Schatzlar, toward Liebau.

The

The detachment that was between Merkelsdorf and Weckelsdorf, behind Friedland, is advanced to-day, and has taken post near Conradswalde.

By these dispositions, I find myself rather under restraint. I will endeavour to-morrow to reconnoitre, and learn what is to be done, and to profit by any opportunity that shall offer.

L. M. FOUQUET

L E T T E R XC,

From the King.

July 18, 1759.

IN all probability the demonstration of the enemy, in marching to Liebau, Schœmberg, and Conradswalde, was nothing more than a bravado.

I am of opinion that Harsch will not attack you, but will retreat after to-morrow.

These people are not sufficiently in force to insult a post so formidable as yours.

The whole was an intention to oblige me to send a detachment to you, and not to send any against Laudohn, who departed yesterday evening for Sagau.

The

The prince of Wirtemberg will be before him, nor will I take one of the steps which it is Daun's wish I should take.

Adieu, my friend ; you will have an excellent affair with the rear-guard of these folks.

With respect to those at Schœmberg, you must only follow them a little beyond Schoemberg, and not so far as Bertelsdorf ; and those from Liebau as far as the cross, and Schwartzwasser, by the two eminences that stand by the gibbet of Liebau, and the heights on the left of Ditterbach. With respect to those at Conradswalde you may treat them worse than the others.

Adieu, my dear general ; this is all I have to say to you.

FREDERIC.

P. S. I hear that you tell every body the enemy is forty thousand strong, which displeases me much ; first because it is not true—he is only eighteen thousand strong ; and again because we must not intimidate our men, who are but too timid of themselves.

LET-

LETTER XCI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, July 18, 1759.

THE combined corps of generals Harfch, De Ville, Jahnus, and Simbschen, are all posted near Schœmberg; the rear-guard arrived there this night.

According to the report of the deserters, the amount of this corps ought to be forty thousand men, and perhaps provided with a train of sixty pieces of artillery.

According to my estimate, it cannot amount to more than thirty thousand men.

To-day, at two in the morning, I began to march with the free battalions, and two battalions of grenadiers, to reconnoitre the position of the enemy; but a thick fog, which continued till nine o'clock, would not permit me to make an exact discovery of their camp.

The advanced posts of their left wing have been repulsed as far as their camp, and a few of them were taken.

The grenadiers and two thousand pandours marched to support them; but, it not being my intention to skirmish with them, we retreated to our camp in good order.

Some

Some deserters have reported that the intention of general Harsch was to attack us in our post, to-morrow; others, on the contrary, imagine his design is to cut off the communication of our corps with Schweidnitz.

The detachment, which advanced as far as Conradswalde, still remains posted at that place, and is said to have been reinforced by three regiments of Saxon dragoons.

Should they make any detachments, to cut off our communication with Schweidnitz, I do not find myself strong enough to detach in opposition to them, without weakening myself on one side or on the other.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XCII.

From the King,

July 20, 1759.

THE enemy has made many motions on this side, but I cannot positively tell you yet what is his intention.

I am therefore obliged to act circumspectly, that I may continue in force, and may be able to fall upon the corps, should he make any attempt.

Laudohn

Laudohn has been detached. I sent after him in haste; he retreated, and was in like manner repulsed by the prince of Wirtemberg.

They are unable to cut you off from Schweidnitz. Some parties gliding among the mountains are not of any great importance; they can do no harm. We must think of great things, and overlook trifles.

I will almost engage my head the enemy will not attack you; and, so long as you shall remain in your present post, he will think twice before he will endeavour to penetrate, in your despite, toward Schweidnitz.

I can make no detachment to you, without risking my entire stock in trade.

In a few days, you will find the whole of their projects will be discovered.

Adieu, my dear general; do not see double; the enemy cannot, at the utmost, have more than twenty thousand men.

FREDERIC.

LET-

L E T T E R X C I I I .

From the King.

July 21, 1759.

GENERAL Laudohn is returned to the Austrian army, and the prince of Wirtemberg has marched back to Buntzlau. According to my information, the Austrian army is in want of forage, for they eat green meat. The country in which they are is not sufficiently fruitful for them to subsist in it long ; I therefore think that, if we wait patiently a week longer, the number of their horses will oblige them to decamp.

They are already preluding, near Landsron ; as soon as they shall retire, I will immediately send a good detachment to your neighbours of Friedland.

This is all I am able to inform you of, at present, relative to what is passing on this side.

The enemy will neither attack you nor me, so long as we shall remain in our present position ; but we must act in conjunction, and beware how we make any detachments.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XCIV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, July 21, 1759.

THE whole corps of general Harfch began its march last night, and this morning continued its route toward Conradswalde, Schwarzwalde, and Witgendorf.

I immediately detached general Ramin, with two battalions and some dragoons and hussars, toward Forst; but he could not make the place, for the environs of Forst, on this side, he found were all occupied by the enemy.

I detached general Schenkendorf, with a battalion and a hundred horse, toward Liebau; and he directed his march through Ullersdorf and Schœmberg.

I followed them, in person, with two battalions and three hundred horse, beyond Gurtelsdorf; but the Austrian rear-guard was there so well posted, that it was impossible for me to make any advantageous attack.

We cannonaded each other about two hours, with the loss of some men; and we on our parts took about twenty prisoners.

They have, in general, so cautiously covered
I their

their march, that it is impossible to divine whether it be their intention to go to Freyburg, or to Friedland.

In case they should march for Friedland, I believe their design is to proceed to Glatz.

They also may mean to halt, with an intention to attack this post on the side of Hartmannsdorf; in which case I expect to give them a good reception.

I wish I had a greater number of cannon with which to oppose them; for their rear-guard attacked me with a train of fifteen pieces, while I had only six. There should be six twelve pounders at Schweidnitz.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R · XCV.

From the King.

July 22, 1759.

I HAVE received your letter of the 21st of this month. The motions which the enemy makes can only tend to induce you to leave your post; the Austrians certainly have no design to march to Glatz.

But I imagine they intend to place themselves,

selves, with all their forces, between you and Schweidnitz.

But they themselves may be the dupes, in pursuing this plan ; for, let but a very inconsiderable corps of our troops be stationed on the tops of the mountains, in an inattackable post, between Friedland and Grissau, and you may intercept their communication with their magazines entirely, and their army, wanting bread, will be obliged to decamp.

Before you determine to act thus, however, it will be necessary to see whether they do not intend to attack you, on the side of Hartmannsdorf.

Do not march with such feeble detachments. Two battalions and three hundred horse are insufficient for the attack of a rear-guard ; it is necessary to take at least six battalions, seven or eight cannon, and five or six hundred horse.

This number is certainly necessary, on such an occasion. The six pounders are at Schweidnitz, but I do not think that you can send for them now, because the danger would be too great.

Should it appear that there will be an action, and that nothing will be done on this side, I can then for some days lend you Krokow, with his three battalions and two squadrons.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

P. S. I believe we shall soon receive intelligence of a battle with the Russians.

L E T T E R XCVI.

From the King.

July 22, 1759.

THE enemy has to-day detached general Beck, with four thousand men, to Neustadt.

As I suppose he will march from thence to Trautenau, I shall this evening send off a detachment to relieve Krokow, at Hirschberg; that is, three battalions of infantry, and two squadrons of hussars, to occupy the post of Landshut; and, should the thing be practicable, thus to furnish you with the means of marching, with your whole corps, to attack the enemy, and derange his projects. You may at least come on his rear, and cut off his subsistence, on the side of Bohemia.

Perhaps you may fall on one of the corps which shall be most within your reach, and beat it in a handsome manner.

On.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R XCVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 22, 1759.

AFTER having reconnoitred, to the best of my abilities, this morning, I believe the corps of general Harfch to be posted on the heights, near Schwarzwalde and Conradswalde, toward Friedland.

The heights and the woods are so garnished with pandours, and other light troops, that it is impossible to proceed to reconnoitre, or to send the patroles forward.

Hitherto we find no means of divining what is their intention.

Report says a party of pandours, and hussars, remains posted near Schatzlar, and Golden-Else. It is further added that infantry will be sent to join them ; but I wait for the confirmation of this intelligence.

General Angenelli is this moment come to inform me that he found a detachment of the

Q 2

enemy,

enemy, of about ten battalions, encamped behind Koenigshayn, near Schatzlar.

The magistrate of Liebau sends me word that five regiments of infantry and cavalry, all regulars, encamp on the heights of Reissen, behind Schatzlar; without including the troops that are at Kriensdorf, Schatzlar, and Lamperisdorf.

Another corps should be posted on the heights behind Bernsdorf, near Else, extending toward Trautenau; and this conjecture is just now confirmed, by information from Schoemberg. This your majesty may see more at length from the inclosed.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R XCVIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 22, 1759.

THE corps of the enemy, under general Harsch, decamped this afternoon for Schwarzwalde, and Conradswalde; and marched in two columns.

I immediately went to reconnoitre, that I might know what was passing in the environs of Witgendorf, Forst, and Hartau; and I perceived

ceived one of their columns on its march, toward Gottesberg; and the other toward Friedland. I expect, to-morrow, more circumstantial information, on this subject.

A letter, from general Wolferfsdorf to general de Ville, intercepted by our hussars, near Conradswalde, informs me that general Harfch, having been taken ill, is departed for Jaromirz, and is since gone to Kœnigsgrätz.

General de Ville has taken the command of the enemy's corps.

According to the contents of the same letter, general Wolferfsdorf, with a corps of eight thousand men, has taken post near Golden-Else, and has sent a detachment to Friedland.

As I have just been informed that the Austrians procure their provisions from Trautenau, by Patſchdorf, Bertelsdorf, and Friedland, I immediately detached general Goltz, with two free battalions, three battalions of grenadiers, the regiment of the margrave Henry, four squadrons of dragoons, four squadrons of hussars, and ten cannon, toward Friedland, to cut off the enemy's convoy. He has posted himself to-day on the heights which lie beyond Conradswalde, near Trautliebersdorf; and has caused his van-guard to advance as far as the skirts of the great wood of Friedland.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R X C I X .

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 23, 1759.

I THINK that, under present circumstances, it would be exceedingly advisable to place ourselves in the rear of the enemy, and cut off his communication of stores and provisions. With this intent I detached general Goltz, to take post on the heights beyond Conradswalde, near Trautlieberdorf. But general Wolferdorf having been found posted with eight thousand men, near Golden-Else, according to the contents of the intercepted letters; and as general Beck will probably join this corps, with the detachment of four thousand men which he commands, general Krokow, having only three battalions and two squadrons of hussars, will find himself too feeble to maintain this post, even should I leave him, when I depart, three battalions as a reinforcement.

I wait your majesty's orders, to know whether I ought thus to enfeeble this post.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T -

LETTER C.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, July 23, 1759.

I HAVE the honour to present to your majesty the list of the Austrian corps, in these environs. It is as exact as I could make it, from the report of the prisoners and the deserters, who are here to the number of eighty, and among whom there is a gunner.

As this corps is accompanied by a great number of cavalry, the enemy's intention appears to be to extend into the plain.

According to the report of a deserter, who arrived last night, the Austrians are in full march, directing their route toward Schweidnitz.

I have just now likewise received a letter from general Zastrow, in which he informs me that the whole army is on its march, toward Gottesberg, and Waldenberg, to repair to Schweidnitz, from which place, it is only half a mile distant.

General Krokow has sent his aid de camp, to inform me that he will march hither, with his three battalions, at one o'clock this afternoon.

Q 4

I wait

I wait your majesty's commands, to know whether I am to march with my corps. I may in any case leave general Krokow here, with the regiment of Mosel, and the fourth battalion of Lettorf; as well as general Angenelli, with his free battalion; provided this number of troops be sufficient.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CI.

From the King.

July 24, 1759.

I HAVE received your two reports of the 23d of July. So long as you shall hold Landshut, it will be impossible for the enemy to make any progress in Silesia.

Five battalions remain near Landshut; you may easily march with eighteen battalions, and post yourself between Conradswalde and Friedland, at the same time rendering yourself master of the post of Friedland, to carry the enemy's troops that are there, and intercept their convoys on every side. Should these gentry entirely leave the mountains, it will always be time enough to fall on them in a body.

But

But there are so many things, at present, at a crisis that we must wait, till some opportunity is found with the Russians, before we fall together by the ears with these people; at least unless they should become rash, and should entirely descend into the plain.

In such a case, I will see whether there be any means of sending a small detachment from this place, and then march upon them, to beat them to some effect.

With respect to the list of the enemy's forces, which you have sent me, it is not entirely accurate; for the regiments of Saxon cavalry contain only four squadrons; and the Tuscan regiment, which is there, has only one battalion. But I will examine the list with attention, and will write to inform you how far it is true, or false.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LET-

L E T T E R CII.

From the King.

July 24, 1759.

I CAN assure you, with tolerable accuracy, according to my lists, that the Austrian army consists in a hundred and two battalions.

Sixty-six battalions are here, and twenty-nine there*, which amount to ninety-five battalions. Gemmingen has six or eight battalions with him, near Bornstædt; they must therefore have sent battalions from this place to Wolferdsdorf, which is near Trautenau; and the corps which was near Arnau has been detached in like manner. Simschen can only consist of one battalion; Tuscany, on the contrary, of two; Preysach consists only of one battalion; but there is a battalion of Wallis, and another of the old Colorado, wanting in your lists.

In the whole, you are opposed by twenty-eight battalions of fusiliers, and five battalions of grenadiers, with thirty-eight squadrons; amounting to fourteen thousand foot,* two thousand five hundred grenadiers, four thousand four hundred horse, five hundred hussars, and some thousands

* That is, as I should imagine, facing general Fouquet: yet this does not agree with the enumeration in the next paragraph. T.

of pandours: in the whole, twenty-three thousand four hundred men.

By taking post between Friedland and Conradswalde, you will cut off the provisions of the enemy; but you must post yourself on the hills; and, should Wolferisdorf make any attempt on Landshut, you will be but a short league distant from Conradswalde, and may fall upon and repulse him with your whole corps.

In fine, if you deprive the enemy of his transports of flour, he cannot long maintain his situation. It will be further necessary for you to watch all his detachments, that you may harass him by all possible means.

As soon as I shall find he has quitted the hills, I will endeavour to send a detachment, that he may be properly beaten.

I am, &c.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, July 24, 1759.

AT the approach of general Goltz, toward Friedland, the two battalions of Tuscany,
and

and two squadrons of hussars and dragoons, had time to leave the town, and escape. Our detachment nevertheless seized on most of their field-equipage, with two hundred chaises and baggage-waggons, and their horses; together with forty mules, and twenty thousand crowns in ready money. Some twenty prisoners were taken in the pursuit.

General Goltz still occupies the post of Friedland, to cut off all succour from the enemy, on that side.

Should the enemy, wanting provisions, be obliged to retreat, I will march with my corps, and take post at Friedland; and will endeavour to make general Goltz advance as far as Johannisberg.

I am this moment informed that the Austrians are posted between Sorge and Kuntzendorf, which induces me to begin my march immediately, to repair to Gottesberg. I shall afterward regulate my conduct by the motions of the enemy.

I leave general Krokow here, in the entrenchments, with the three battalions and two squadrons of hussars, which he brought me. I shall further leave him the regiment of Mosel, a battalion of Lattorf, and a free battalion of Angenelli.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CIV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Gottesberg, July 24, 1759.

THIS afternoon I arrived with my corps near Gottesberg. I have left Krokow near Landshut, with seven battalions.

General Goltz is still posted with his detachment near Friedland; he has to-day sent in thirty-five prisoners, which he has taken from the enemy.

On my arrival, I found more than a thousand pandours and dragoons, that were posted on the heights, on the other side of Gottesberg. They were immediately repulsed, by the vanguard of the hussars, and pursued beyond Waldenburg. We took on this occasion about twenty prisoners.

I have been very well able to examine the camp of the enemy, from the top of our hills. It extends from Furstenstein, along Liebichau, as far as Kuntzendorf.

General de Ville has fixed his quarters at Furstenstein. The camp of the enemy is so situated that no attack can be attempted.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CV.

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

July 25, 1759.

I RECEIVED your two reports of the 24th of this month, and was very glad to hear you had obtained some success over the enemy.

I cannot comprehend in what manner general de Ville means to subvert his corps.

It is here affirmed you have cut the enemy off from his artillery ; but this I can scarcely believe ; not presuming that De Ville had advanced without cannon.

Were I able, I should be very glad to send you a reinforcement ; but of this my present situation will not admit.

When you see general de Ville turning toward Reichenbach, you must endeavour to throw some battalions into the town of Neifs.

I am, &c.

FREDERIC.

L E T-

LETTER CVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIR,

Conradswalde, July 26, 1759.

THIS day took the camp between Conradswalde and Friedland; that of Gottesberg not being, by its situation, advantageous.

Our rear-guard was pursued by some hundreds of the enemy's dragoons, of whom and their horses, our hussars have taken about a dozen: they belong to the regiments of Albrecht and Arnheim.

Since De Ville has been near Furstenstein, he sends out foraging parties, and subsists on the bread which the country is obliged to furnish.

Information and intercepted letters, from their commissary, Aitfeld, inform us that the transports must pass through Jaromirz, Trausenau, and Friedland: as we have cut off this passage, he can expect nothing on that side.

Should De Ville find means longer to remain in his present post, and to subsist there, of which there is little probability, I shall be myself more embarrassed than he is.

There are bread and flour sufficient for the corps to the 9th of August. The military chest

is at Schweidnitz. As it has to-day been emptied of its contents, I entreat your majesty would issue orders to the grand military chest to send me at least fifty-thousand crowns, for the half of the month of August.

The regiment of Mosel to-day marches, to join general Goltz, at Friedland. Should De Ville direct his route on the side of Reichenbach, general Goltz will detach this regiment through Glatz, to anticipate the enemy, and occupy Neifs.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Conradswalde, July 27, 1759.

THE convoys of De Ville having been impeded by us, he was this morning obliged to abandon his camp of Furstenstein, and re-enter Bohemia.

He endeavoured, with his whole corps, to penetrate this way, near Conradswalde; but he was beaten, and obliged to retreat as far as Gottesberg. The cannonade continued from ten in the morning till the evening. We have had about sixty killed and wounded; but the enemy
I have

have lost more than four hundred men. We have taken some prisoners, the number of whom I do not yet exactly know.

The enemy's army has just stationed itself on the heights of Gottesberg. I shall observe his proceedings, and take my measures accordingly.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CVIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

July 28, 1759.

I LEARN'T, from your report of yesterday, with much satisfaction, that you have driven general de Ville, who wished to have taken your post, as far as Gottesberg. I am much pleased that you have been thus successful. You have only to send orders to major-general Krokow; and, in case the enemy should attempt to pass through Schœmberg, he will cover your rear. De Ville, I imagine, will endeavour to march to Friedland, should he continue to find you in his road; it therefore would not be amiss for you to ruin the roads he must take, that you may increase the difficulties of his march. You

VOL. XIII.

R

may

may at least engage advantageously with his rear-guard; for, since he will be obliged to pass roads that have so many impediments, you may terribly incommode him with your artillery.

I am, &c.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Conradswalde, July 28, 1759.

GENERAL Jahnus, with the regiments Simbschen and Preysach, a battalion of grenadiers, two battalions of pandours, and four squadrons of Saxe-Gotha dragoons, endeavoured to-day to force a passage near Friedland.

As soon as I received this intelligence, I made an effort to reinforce general Goltz, with four battalions and four squadrons. Some dozen discharges of the artillery however were sufficient to induce the enemy to retreat, nor did he think proper to return to the attack.

There is much probability that De Ville will find himself obliged to retreat through Braunau, where he will meet with very bad roads.

I am hourly ready for pursuit.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CX.

From the King.

The camp of Schmottseiffen,
July 29, 1759.

YOUR report, my dear general, of the 28th, gave me much pleasure.

You informed me that general Jahnus, being detached by general de Ville, endeavoured to penetrate near Friedland, and was properly repulsed by general Goltz.

I, like you, think these gentry have a wish to repair to Braunau ; but, before they arrive there, I hope they will have lost their cannon, and many other similar trifles.

In this case, while they shall pass the ruined roads, you cannot do better than to fall upon their rear-guard.

General Goltz may occupy some hills, at the bottom of which they will necessarily be obliged to march ; thus will they, as it were, run the gauntlet.

I imagine that, in two or three days, you will be freed from them, and that you will be enabled to harass them most pitilessly, before they are at their journey's end.

R 2

To-morrow

To-morrow I shall go to Sagan, and my brother, prince Henry, will come here; but I forbid you to mention this to any person.

I am, &c.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Langen-Watterdorf, July 29, 1759.

LAST night general de Ville sent off his whole corps, and took his flight through Langen-Watterdorf, and Reinswalde; from which places, through circuitous roads and by private paths, he is gone to Johannisberg, in the district of Braunau.

He sent off his baggage the night before, and concealed his march so effectually that I was not informed of it till this morning.

I immediately marched with my troops to Gottesberg. I sent general Ramin, with seven battalions and four squadrons, through Waldenburg, toward Tannhausen. I pursued the enemy myself, through Reinswalde, as far as Langen-Watterdorf, where we took some prisoners.

The haste and the disorder of the enemy's retreat

treat have occasioned him to lose many men, by desertion ; the number of prisoners, and deserters, is in the whole about fifteen hundred.

I shall to-morrow retreat to Conradswalde, and the day after shall march to Landshut, with my corps; having first endeavoured to oblige general Wolferdorf to decamp from Schatzlar, where he still is posted.

L. M. FOUQUET.

“ ON the 30th of July general Fouquet assembled his corps near Conradswalde, once more to occupy the post of Landshut.

“ As the Austrian general, Wolferdorf, remained at Kœnigszeyn, near Schatzlar, with nine battalions of foot, and five squadrons of dragoons and hussars, general Fouquet determined to come upon him by surprise.

“ On the 31st of July, at eleven in the evening, he ordered his corps to advance, and march against the enemy in three columns. The Austrians took to flight on his approach.

“ The whole camp, almost all the baggage, money, horses, and two hundred mules, became the prey of the Prussians. Near two hundred prisoners fell into their hands, and many of the Austrians were killed.

“ After having so successfully executed this
“ plan, general Fouquet encamped, with his
“ troops, at the post of Landshut.

“ The reinforcements he had received from
“ the army of the king, and from Neifs, were
“ returned; and he was obliged to confine
“ himself to the defence of his post, as had been
“ strongly recommended to him, by his ma-
“ jesty.

“ General Fouquet remained in that position
“ till the end of the month of October; during
“ which no remarkable event took place.

“ His vigilance, and the wisdom of his mea-
“ sures, rendered all the enterprises of his ene-
“ mies, and the manoeuvres they made to at-
“ tack him, wholly ineffectual.

“ The king, in the interim, after the loss of
“ the battle of Zulichau, fought by general Leh-
“ wald, against the Russians, lost himself the
“ dreadful battle of Cunnerisdorf; after which
“ he returned to the camp of Etscher, and on
“ the 13th of August passed the Oder, at four
“ in the afternoon, to take post on the heights
“ of Rentwein, and Polentzig. On the 15th
“ he advanced further, and encamped at Mad-
“ litz, near Furstenwalde.

“ In this position he employed every resource
“ of his genius, to repair the loss of two battles.

“ His

“ His enemies supplied him with the means ;
 “ and, as soon as he was able to march, he en-
 “ tered Lusatia, whence he passed into Silesia,
 “ and there obliged the Russians to forego the
 “ siege of Glogau, and to retreat into Poland ;
 “ as will be seen by the continuation of the cor-
 “ respondence.”

L E T T E R CXII.

From the King.

MY FRIEND,

Linderode, near Sorau,
 Sept. 20, 1759.

MY brother has suffered twelve thousand Austrians to pass, who have joined the Russians at Christianstadt. They intend to lay siege to Glogau, which I am on the wing to prevent ; but I am weak, I have only twenty-four thousand men, and men that have been twice beaten, You understand me.

I neither know where you are nor under what circumstances ; but, if you are able, send me aid. The men may march for Pridemast.

I will not suffer them to besiege Glogau ; I will rather fight, happen what may.

Such was the doctrine of ancient chivalry,

and such is mine. I shall be beyond Sagan to-morrow, and the next day near Glogau.

A quick answer, my friend, and let the aid you send be equally speedy.

Adieu ; I embrace you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, September 22, 1759.

THE most gracious orders of your majesty, dated the 20th instant, I have received.

On the side of the enemy there are, facing me, general Harfch, near Trautenau, and general Jahnus, near Schatzlar. They have an army that almost doubles mine, in numbers.

That I might preserve the post of Hirschberg, I have detached five battalions and four squadrons. Agreeable to your majesty's orders, major-general Meyer will depart from Hirschberg, to-morrow at day-break, with a battalion of Buddenbrock, two battalions of Kalkstein, two squadrons of the Bayreuth dragoons, and two twelve pounders. He will hasten his march through
Goldberg,

Goldberg, Haynau, and Bolkwitz, that he may, if possible, arrive in three marches, at Pridemast.

There will then remain, at Hirschberg, one battalion of Le Noble, one battalion of Lattorf, and two squadrons of the Werner hussars.

Prince Henry has of this corps reserved to himself a battalion of Unruh, two squadrons of Bayreuth, and one squadron of Werner hussars. The regiment of Mosel is at Neifs.

Consequently, there are fifteen battalions still here, six squadrons of dragoons, and six squadrons of the Werner hussars.

Your majesty from this will perceive I am incapable of sending a heavier detachment, if I mean to maintain my post.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXIV.

From the King.

Bonau, September 25, 1759.

IMAGINE, my dear general, that the three battalions and the two squadrons, which you have sent me, under the command of general Meyer, as well as the six battalions and
hundred

hundred hussars that have been detached by my brother, will join the army to-morrow morning.

The news I have to tell you is that the enemy yesterday marched between Freystadt and Neu Salze. He is arrived, with a large posse of Cossacks, at Beuthen; and the Austrians, with their ten regiments of cavalry, are posted opposite us, near a defile.

For my part, I have taken post near Bonau, and have passed the night under arms.

At day-break, I went to reconnoitre the enemy, and found the opposing generals were come on the same errand; after which they retreated slowly. In an hour's time, the enemy erected his tents, so that it would be in vain for me to expect an attack to-day. Should they hear that succour is come in to-morrow, it may well be supposed there will be less probability that any thing remarkable should happen.

With twenty-one thousand men, your ill-treated and beaten humble servant has prevented an army of fifty thousand from attacking him, and has obliged it to withdraw for Neu Salze.

We have a good post here, but have only one line to guard it. Succour will arrive to-morrow.

L E T.

L E T T E R CXV.

From the King.

The camp of Bonau,
Sept. 26, 1759.

YESTERDAY, my friend, was a critical period. The enemy had struck his camp at Freystadt, on the 23d, and had advanced toward Neustædel. I immediately began my march, that I might post myself so as to interdict the passages of Neustædel and Beuthen.

The whole army, by which is understood twenty-four thousand men, had taken its post the same evening at seven o'clock. The enemy had, as I had presupposed, inclined in full force toward the defile of Rœhl and of Keltſch; the Cossacks and hussars, to the number of three thousand, had marched to Beuthen; and, on the morning of the 25th, these troops were all in motion.

The generals came to reconnoitre us, and it should seem our position appeared to them to be too advantageous; they had no inclination to run their head against the wall, for we saw them retreat, slowly, and encamp, with their left at Altschau, and their right extending toward Rœhl.

Yesterday evening, information was brought me that a heavy body of their troops was passing the Oder ; but we see their fires still burning.

The rest of the army will arrive to-day, and I wait to hear news of the enemy, that I may determine on the most efficacious and least hazardous means, of obliging these infamous incendiaries to quit the country,

I suspect their plan is to avoid a battle, which must soon be known. In this case a partisan war must follow, and that on both sides of the Oder ; so that we must fortify our camp well, that we may make detachments with impunity, and without risk.

Such, my dear friend, is our situation at present ; having some good troops with me, I am in no fear.

I had detached the best of my troops into Saxony ; the campaign was about to finish at Guben, and the Russians were intending to depart, when that infernal detachment of ten regiments, from the army of Daun, arrived. To this add some treachery ; and from such causes these wretches determined on the siege of Glogau.

I believe their project has failed at present ; therefore the only question is to save the open country, from the ruin with which it is threatened.

Yesterday

Yesterday this herd burnt two villages under our eyes, while we were unable to prevent the act.

In fine, I shall neglect nothing ; and you may depend that every thing in my power shall be attempted, to put an end to this as soon as possible ; but the thing is not so easy as may be supposed.

Adieu, my dear friend. I embrace you with all my heart.

FREDERIC.

LETTER CXVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, September 25, 1759.

TWENTY-ONE thousand men and your majesty make forty-two thousand ; to these add a reinforcement of nine battalions, and the whole will be equal to the fifty thousand men of your enemies. Your majesty has a good camp, and your magazine is at hand in your rear ; there is therefore no probability that they should attack you, but that they will be obliged to pass the Oder, and retreat toward Poland, that they may approach their magazines.

In

In this case, Laudohn will leave them; which, on one side or the other, may procure your majesty some advantage. Harsch has successively detached battalions, with some Saxon cavalry, through Arnau and Hochstädt, which escort convoys toward Saxony.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, September 27, 1759.

I MOST humbly relate to your majesty the intelligence I have just received, from Lœwenberg, Schmiedeberg, and Hirschberg; which is that the corps of Beck has approached, from Böhmisch-Friedland; and the news has been confirmed by the deserters.

Colonel le Noble, who keeps near Hirschberg, with three battalions and two squadrons of hussars, at the same time informs me that a corps of the enemy is arrived near Greiffenberg, and occupies a post at Bartelsdorf, beyond Hirschberg,

I will therefore send colonel le Noble a reinforcement of a battalion. I should weaken my own post too much, were I to detach more.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CXVIII.

From the King.

September 28, 1759.

I HAVE just received your letters, dated the 27th of this month. Affairs are at present in such a state that, while we stop up one hole, we inevitably make another.

Write me word however whether colonel le Noble has any cavalry with him.

My situation is such, here, that I could spare five hundred horse; but not a single man from the infantry.

If these five hundred horse can be of any service to you, they shall be sent.

You may inform colonel le Noble that, since he is near Hirschberg, he will do well to write directly to me, that I may be the sooner acquainted with what is passing, in those parts.

I have no news to send you, for I have not yet made all my arrangements. I can say nothing at present, except that the two armies have so many defiles, before them, that they cannot do each other much injury.

I will make every possible attempt to endeavour to gain some advantage, over the enemy;
but

but this I perceive will be a thing very difficult of execution.

The regiments of Laudohn are said to have been three days without bread ; but that would to them be a thing of small consequence, for they would only hew down so many more oxen.

I am, &c.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXIX.

From the King.

September 28, 1759.

THE barbarians are still facing me. I am preparing to play them an excellent trick, which, should it succeed, will send them away flying.

I own I am very impatient to be rid of them ; not because of myself, but of the country which they ruin and burn.

I will send you word of every thing which passes here.

Inform me, my dear general, of your own situation ; and of all that is transacting, on the side of Gœrlitz.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXX.

From the King.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

September 28, 1759.

I HAVE received news that general Beck, who was posted with a corps, amounting from fifteen to eighteen thousand men, near Marck-Lissa, intends to march for Glogau.

Of this I send you information; and, not knowing whether there be any of the enemy's forces near Neifs or no, inform you that you have only to call in the regiment of Mosel: you may then reinforce the post, on the side of Hirschberg, with two battalions.

See further whether it be not possible to stop Beck. For my own part, having only seven regiments of cavalry, I cannot spare more than three hundred horse, exclusive of the two squadrons which you sent me.

In case general Beck should wish to penetrate into your neighbourhood, you must endeavour to harass his baggage, to retard his designs.

You may well believe this new incident has greatly embarrassed me, since it is impossible for me to make any detachment. It will therefore be the more necessary that you should call

in the regiment of Mosel from Neifs; which, happen what will, you may soon send thither again.

I must likewise send you general Meyer, with six hundred horse, immediately to Hirschberg; but, this general not being a man too well fitted for command, you must make him subordinate to some other.

Should general Beck already have passed, on his march to Glogau, send hither the corps that is at Hirschberg, and I will endeavour to reinforce it, that I may thus induce general Beck to discontinue his purpose.

I hear that Beck means to march to Glogau. You can conceive what must be the consequence; should he come on my rear, while the others attack me in front, judge what must become of my army. Beck had only ten thousand men at Zittau. I know not whether he have or have not been reinforced by Harfch.

I am, &c.

FREDERIC.

L E T.

LETTER CXXI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, September 28, 1759.

GENERALS Harfch and Jahnus are still at Schatzlar and Trautenau. The detachment they have made, toward upper Lusatia, consists of the three regiments of Tuscany, Bayreuth, and Wurtzburg. Some reports say that they are to return; but, according to others, they have joined the corps of general Beck, which is posted in the vicinity of Böhmisch-Friedland, whence he sends his patrols as far as Greiffenberg, and even farther, among the mountains.

This corps is composed of six thousand pandours, of the Luzani regiment of foot, of a battalion of volunteers, of two regiments of dragoons, of one regiment of cuirassiers, and of a regiment of hussars.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXXII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, September 29, 1759.

I HAVE received your majesty's orders, dated on the 28th of this month, the moment after I had sealed up my preceding letter, to the contents of which I refer your majesty.

As, without enumerating the flying parties of the enemy, dispersed over upper Silesia, there still are, at Neustadt, Goldenstein, and those environs, six battalions of infantry and some cavalry, that are not further from Neifs than from Glatz, I dare not call in all the regiment of Mosel, and have sent only for a battalion.

However I immediately dispatched general Goltz, with a battalion and two squadrons of dragoons, to Hirschberg, that this post may be guarded by four battalions, and two squadrons of hussars.

If your majesty shall please to send, from your army, the two squadrons of Bayreuth, and one squadron of the Werner hussars, that belong to this corps, there will be horse enough.

General Goltz will endeavour to annoy the
enemy,

enemy, on that side, as much as possible, and will make his reports to your majesty.

L. M. FOUQUET.

I send the chasseur, who has delivered your majesty's letter, to Hirschberg, to general Goltz; from whence he may bring your majesty more certain intelligence of the motions of the corps under general Beck. I am persuaded he will have no desire to penetrate further.

L E T T E R CXXIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, Oct. 2, 1759.

I CONGRATULATE you on the departure of the Russians, and there is great probability that the retreat of general Laudohn will cost him dear.

According to advice from general Goltz, the corps of general Beck is at present near Marck-Lissa and Gœrlitzheim. A deserter, at Hirschberg, has declared that the said corps has received orders to hold itself in continual readiness to march.

Your majesty will find some intelligence inclosed, which I have just received by express.

Though these messengers have some of them been at Trautenau, and in the very camp itself, their reports are notwithstanding all different.

Should the news be confirmed that a corps of the enemy is to march toward upper Silesia, I shall be equally embarrassed, whether to send a reinforcement to Neifs, or to cause three or four battalions to occupy the post of Wartha; for the foe may undertake some enterprize as well on the one side as on the other.

I submit it to your majesty either to keep or to return the three battalions you have drafted from my corps.

L. M. FOUQUET,

L E T T E R CXXIV.

From the King.

Zerbau, near Glogau, Oct. 3, 1759.

I HAVE received your report of the second of this month, and will explain to you the whole project of the enemy.

Laudohn covers the march of the Russians. As soon as the latter shall have passed, he will coast the frontiers of Silesia, as far as Oppeln and Ratibor, to lay siege to Neifs; and a corps will

will at the same time march into the province of Glatz, which will approach on the side of Weidenau, or on that of Jägerndorf.

To render this plan fruitless, I shall immediately send a body of cavalry to Cosel, to drive away the pandours that are there. This corps shall be followed by the three battalions which you have sent me, and by six battalions that belong to my brother.

I think also to replace some battalions that you have with you, and the corps near Hirschberg, by a corps from the remainder of my army. Those troops that shall still be in the vicinity of Landshut, shall be under the command of major-general Goltz.

I will further give you the command of the corps in upper Silesia, and I will march with about thirteen thousand men into Saxony.

Should some of the troops of general Harsch hereafter approach Neifs, Goltz may continue to make detachments toward Schweidnitz; but, with respect to yourself, you must wait till I can write more precisely. These are only my preliminary ideas.

My brother has himself written to me, on the 26th of the last month, to inform me that general Whela has been taken, and his whole corps entirely dispersed, near Hoyerwerda.

Laudohn is posted here, in the country of Ratlau, behind woods and a triple defile.

The Russians are filing off toward Poland. Six thousand men and a part of their baggage have already entered that kingdom, and another corps of their army marches to-day; but I cannot yet determine what will be the length of their march.

The men whom I shall send you, into Silesia, will in three days arrive near Breslau; in six they will be at Neifs, and in seven in the vicinity of Oppeln, to destroy the bridge, that the enemy may not pass. In eight days they will attack and drive off the corps near Cosel, the garrison of which place is not strong enough to perform this service without aid.

The detachment sent hence to Hirschberg ought to arrive there in three days, to relieve the battalions.

Send me a list of the regiments, and battalions, that are under your command, with all possible speed.

I am your affectionate king.

FREDERIC.

Such, my dear friend, are the trifling deductions I have drawn, under present circumstances. The enemy is my compass, according to which I must regulate my course. I imagine to-mor-
row,

row, or the day after at the latest, he will march for Poland. I will then positively inform you of the manner in which I mean to act. But, though new incidents may intervene, you must prepare to take upon yourself the command of the troops, in upper Silesia; for you are the person most worthy to assume that command.

I shall directly detach from this place about nine complete battalions, ten squadrons of hussars, and ten of cavalry. I shall afterward relieve the whole post of Hirschberg, with my troops; and Goltz, by marching to Landshut, will afford you a detachment of equal force, that will march to Neiss; whence you may draw the regiment of Ramin, as soon as you shall begin to advance; so that you will have eighteen or nineteen battalions, with twenty squadrons of my army, exclusive of the cavalry I may leave at Hirschberg, and at Landshut; for I am desirous that Werner should be of the expedition into upper Silesia; and, in order to replace him, I may leave Ruseh and Malakowski at Landshut.

I shall afterward march into Saxony, with about thirteen thousand men. I have about thirty-nine thousand here, so that I shall leave twenty-six thousand in Silesia.

Adieu, my dear friend.

L E T T E R CXXV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, October 5, 1759.

THE commands of your majesty, of the 3d of this month, have come safely to hand; and I wait your ultimate orders, to put the whole in execution.

Your majesty will here find the list of this corps, according to which I enumerate fifteen battalions, at this place, including the free battalions, and a battalion of Mosel, that arrived yesterday. There are four battalions at Hirschberg, which together make nineteen battalions. Should your majesty deign to think well of the plan, I will, in case I should march, leave nine or ten battalions with general Goltz, to maintain this post.

While Hirsch shall remain near Schatzlar and Trautenau, and the six battalions of the Austrians in the environs of Altstadt and Goldenstein, I shall be obliged to leave three or four battalions at Wartha.

The remainder with me, therefore, including the nine battalions from your majesty, will
amount

amount to fourteen battalions, with which I am to cover upper Silesia.

General Werner (as well as his regiment) being best acquainted with all the districts in upper Silesia, is an exceedingly proper person to be appointed, by your majesty, for this expedition.

General Beck has just directed his march toward Zittau.

It is affirmed that general Harfch intends to march toward upper Silesia, and that Jahnus will wait a reinforcement, opposite this post; which intelligence has this day been confirmed by the report, here included, of the burgomaster of Schatzlar.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXXVI.

From the King.

October 6, 1759.

THE enemy I believe will march to-day, by which, according to all appearances, our apprehensions will be relieved.

The Russians will leave the road of Thorn; and the Austrians will march by Rawitz along the frontiers.

In

In this case, the following will be my disposition. General Platen shall instantly march, with the regiment of Putkammer, ten squadrons of cuirassiers, and the battalion of Buddenbrog; in three days march he will be near Breslau, and will halt on the 4th; on the 6th he will be at Lœwen; on the 7th a detachment will be sent to Oppeln, to break down the bridge; and on the 8th the bridge of Kroppitz will be demolished, and the pandours driven from Cosel.

Eight battalions, with twelve twelve-pounders, and generals Queis and Gablenz, will depart on the same day; will reach Langen-Oels in three marches; will halt the 4th day; on the 6th will be at Neiß; and general Thiele will depart on that same day with five battalions of infantry, as will general Meyer with a regiment of dragoons, and general Malakowski with the regiments of Rutsch and Malakowski, which together amount to six hundred men. On the 4th day this corps will be at Landshut, to relieve you. You may then take five squadrons of Bayreuth, the regiment of Werner, one squadron excepted, and the seven battalions, and in three days reach Neiß.

No detachment must be made to Wartha; if you should determine to send any forces thither, let it be a free battalion.

You

You may be at Neifs in three days, with your seven battalions. You will pass the river, and drive away the corps that is at Neustadt. Should Harfch send any detachment into upper Silesia, Goltz must have a proportionate detachment for Neifs. The five battalions, that I send you, may in any case hold the post of Landshut, provided Jahnus only shall remain at Schatzlar.

As soon as Platen shall have driven away the gentry from Cosel, you may join your forces at Leobschutz and Neustadt, or somewhere thereabout.

Laudohn will return by upper Silesia, and Harfch will detach some of his troops to Lübow, in order to facilitate his operations. Should they then not find any person to oppose them, they will be strong enough to undertake either the siege of Cosel or that of Neifs. I ought to add that, should Jahnus only remain near Schatzlar, you may avail yourself of the whole regiment of Bayreuth.

Your grand object is to anticipate Laudohn, which you may effect past dispute; to destroy the magazines, if the enemy have formed any, at Troppau or at Jägerndorf; and to harass Laudohn as much as you can.

The corps of Laudohn amounts to eighteen thousand men, consisting of ten regiments of horse,

horse, three of which are exceedingly feeble; twenty-seven battalions, five of which amount to a thousand men; and the other regiments likewise of about a thousand, with twelve hundred hussars, and two thousand croats. On this you may depend.

The Russians and Laudohn, this morning, still remain between Schlichtingshiem and Strauwasser. As soon as I shall learn that they are on their march, and are separated, I shall send off my three columns, and give you notice; that, on the seventh day, you may be near Neifs.

With respect to myself, as soon as I shall perceive this country is entirely cleared, I shall take the road for Bunzlau and Gœrlitz, to conclude the campaign near Dresden.

In the mean time, this is all I have the power to do. Should Harfch make some detachment, fail not to send, according to an ample estimate, troops to Neifs in a like proportion; for it is time to think on upper Silesia.

Adieu, my friend. I embrace you with all my heart.

FREDERIC.

LET-

LETTER CXXVII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, October 7, 1759.

I HAVE just received the commands and disposition of your majesty, of the 6th of this month; according to which I shall take my measures.

Your majesty, having reserved a regiment of dragons, and six hundred of the hussars of Rusc and Malakowski, for general Goltz, which in my opinion will be sufficient among the mountains and in the environs of Hirschberg, is graciously pleased to permit the whole regiment of Bayreuth to join me; allowing me also to send for the two squadrons of Werner hussars, which are with the detachment of major Seelhoorst; a proceeding the more necessary, as general Laudohn is very superior to me in cavalry.

A situation may occur which will occasion me considerable embarrassment.

Should Laudohn post himself in the vicinity of Cosel at the very time that I am advancing thither, and should Harsch endeavour to penetrate near Weydenau and Zuckmantel, I shall then be obliged to send a detachment to Oppersdorf,

persdorf, or to fall back with the whole corps, that I may not be cut off from the magazine of Neifs.

In this case, Laudohn would be master of that part of upper Silesia.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXXVIII.

From the King.

Sophienthal, October 9, 1759.

YOU do not conceive, my dear general, the present combination of affairs. Laudohn cannot pass the Oder, except at Ratibor or at Oppeln.

The croats, it is said, are collecting magazines on that side. These magazines must be destroyed, or carried from the enemy; and the bridge of Oppeln and of Ratibor ruined, previous to the arrival of Laudohn. It is likewise necessary to drive away the beggarly troop, that give themselves an air of blockading Cosel.

I have sent five squadrons of hussars to Breslau. I have commanded them to go to Lœwen, to which place send Werner, instantaneously, with five squadrons of his regiment.

Inform

Inform him of mine and of the enemy's projects on upper Silesia. Perhaps, with these ten squadrons, he may accomplish the three following objects: that is, he may take the magazines, break down the bridges, and chase away the enemy, from the environs of Cosel.

With respect to myself, I can neither separate my army nor make detachments, while the Russians and the Austrians shall remain together.

They encamp between Mechau and Great Osten, having Bartsch in their front.

I wait the moment of their separation. The Russians, in a few days, will be obliged to go to Posenania, and Laudohn to gain upper Silesia. I then shall detach infantry for Breslau, and continually anticipate them in their projects.

My detachment for Landshut may arrive there in three days. If, with this corps, you march immediately for Neifs, and at Neustadt join the regiments which I destined for upper Silesia, you will continually be able to harass Laudohn, at the passage of the Oder, or to fall upon his rear-guard. And should Harfch detach, in consequence, you will fortify, in proportion as the enemy shall fortify.

Recollect that, with about two thousand five hundred hussars and three thousand five hundred dragoons, I have made head, during the

whole campaign, against ten or twelve thousand light troops, ten regiments of Austrian cavalry, and the whole cavalry of the Russians. Therefore, with twenty squadrons of cavalry and two good regiments of hussars, you may in like manner make head against the cavalry of Laudohn; three regiments of which are totally ruined, and the others have most severely suffered. You must be attentive to assume ground on which the cavalry will have little opportunity to act.

Laudohn has only about eight thousand foot, and his forces daily diminish. They remain five or six days in want of bread, and will be obliged to make a very heavy march, which will at least cost them three thousand men, by desertion. Add to this, these troops are afflicted with the dysentery; and that, consequently, weakness and bad provisions will oblige Laudohn to return, with all the speed he can, into Moravia.

Therefore, far from figuring to yourself great detachments, imagine a new career of glory opening to your view.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LET-

LETTER CXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, October 10, 1759.

IN obedience to your majesty's orders, of the 9th of this month, I early to-day detached general Werner, with five squadrons of his regiment, and instructed him in all which it was necessary he should observe.

He will hasten his march to Lœwen as much as possible, and there will join the five squadrons that come from Breslau, and endeavour to execute his expedition, according to the commands and intention of your majesty.

L. M. FOUQUET.

Here, as with you, sire, there is absolutely nothing new passing.

Harfch and Jahnus still keep the same position, at Schatzlar and Trautenau.

They cause it to be reported that they intend to march toward upper Silesia, but at present not a man is in motion.

As soon as they shall be on the march, I will instantly send off the three battalions destined for Neifs, and will follow them immediately, af-

whole campaign, against ten or twelve thousand light troops, ten regiments of Austrian cavalry, and the whole cavalry of the Russians. Therefore, with twenty squadrons of cavalry and two good regiments of hussars, you may in like manner make head against the cavalry of Laudohn ; three regiments of which are totally ruined, and the others have most severely suffered. You must be attentive to assume ground on which the cavalry will have little opportunity to act.

Laudohn has only about eight thousand foot, and his forces daily diminish. They remain five or six days in want of bread, and will be obliged to make a very heavy march, which will at least cost them three thousand men, by desertion. Add to this, these troops are afflicted with the dysentery ; and that, consequently, weakness and bad provisions will oblige Laudohn to return, with all the speed he can, into Moravia.

Therefore, far from figuring to yourself great detachments, imagine a new career of glory opening to your view.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LET-

LETTER CXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIR E,

Landshut, October 10, 1759.

IN obedience to your majesty's orders, of the 9th of this month, I early to-day detached general Werner, with five squadrons of his regiment, and instructed him in all which it was necessary he should observe.

He will hasten his march to Loewen as much as possible, and there will join the five squadrons that come from Breslau, and endeavour to execute his expedition, according to the commands and intention of your majesty.

L. M. FOUQUET.

Here, as with you, sire, there is absolutely nothing new passing.

Harſch and Jahnus ſtill keep the ſame poſition, at Schatzlar and Trautenau.

They cauſe it to be reported that they intend to march toward upper Sileſia, but at preſent not a man is in motion.

As ſoon as they ſhall be on the march, I will inſtantly ſend off the three battalions deſtined for Neifs, and will follow them immediately, after

whole campaign, against ten or twelve thousand light troops, ten regiments of Austrian cavalry, and the whole cavalry of the Russians. Therefore, with twenty squadrons of cavalry and two good regiments of hussars, you may in like manner make head against the cavalry of Laudohn; three regiments of which are totally ruined, and the others have most severely suffered. You must be attentive to assume ground on which the cavalry will have little opportunity to act.

Laudohn has only about eight thousand foot, and his forces daily diminish. They remain five or six days in want of bread, and will be obliged to make a very heavy march, which will at least cost them three thousand men, by desertion. Add to this, these troops are afflicted with the dysentery; and that, consequently, weakness and bad provisions will oblige Laudohn to return, with all the speed he can, into Moravia.

Therefore, far from figuring to yourself great detachments, imagine a new career of glory opening to your view.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LET-

LETTER CXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, October 10, 1759.

IN obedience to your majesty's orders, of the 9th of this month, I early to-day detached general Werner, with five squadrons of his regiment, and instructed him in all which it was necessary he should observe.

He will hasten his march to Löwen as much as possible, and there will join the five squadrons that come from Breslau, and endeavour to execute his expedition, according to the commands and intention of your majesty.

L. M. FOUQUET.

Here, as with you, sire, there is absolutely nothing new passing.

Harfch and Jahnus still keep the same position, at Schatzlar and Trautenau.

They cause it to be reported that they intend to march toward upper Silesia, but at present not a man is in motion.

As soon as they shall be on the march, I will instantly send off the three battalions destined for Neifs, and will follow them immediately, af-

whole campaign, against ten or twelve thousand light troops, ten regiments of Austrian cavalry, and the whole cavalry of the Russians. Therefore, with twenty squadrons of cavalry and two good regiments of hussars, you may in like manner make head against the cavalry of Laudohn; three regiments of which are totally ruined, and the others have most severely suffered. You must be attentive to assume ground on which the cavalry will have little opportunity to act.

Laudohn has only about eight thousand foot, and his forces daily diminish. They remain five or six days in want of bread, and will be obliged to make a very heavy march, which will at least cost them three thousand men, by desertion. Add to this, these troops are afflicted with the dysentery; and that, consequently, weakness and bad provisions will oblige Laudohn to return, with all the speed he can, into Moravia.

Therefore, far from figuring to yourself great detachments, imagine a new career of glory opening to your view.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LET-

LETTER CXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, October 10, 1759.

IN obedience to your majesty's orders, of the 9th of this month, I early to-day detached general Werner, with five squadrons of his regiment, and instructed him in all which it was necessary he should observe.

He will hasten his march to Loewen as much as possible, and there will join the five squadrons that come from Breslau, and endeavour to execute his expedition, according to the commands and intention of your majesty.

L. M. FOUQUET.

Here, as with you, sire, there is absolutely nothing new passing.

Harfch and Jahnus still keep the same position, at Schatzlar and Trautenau.

They cause it to be reported that they intend to march toward upper Silesia, but at present not a man is in motion.

As soon as they shall be on the march, I will instantly send off the three battalions destined for Neifs, and will follow them immediately, af-

ter the reinforcement from your majesty shall arrive.

General Beck still remains in the vicinity of Zittau.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXXX.

From the King.

October 26, 1759.

THE enemy, my dear Fouquet, yesterday marched to Bajanowa and Rawitz. Laudohn and the Russians are still together; notwithstanding which, I shall to-day send off the detachment, which on the 29th will be at Landshut.

Major-general Thiele marches to-day, with his five battalions, the hussars of Malakowski, and major-general Meyer with the regiment of Platen; passing the bridge near Koeber to Rauden, on the 27th they will be at Liegnitz, on the 28th at Ronstock, and on the 29th at Landshut.

If you could march on the evening of the 29th with the infantry, Werner and Bayreuth might follow you, by forced marches. You might

might then proceed with little noise to Reichenbach; that is to within two miles of Landshut; and, on the 31st of this month, you might march to Neiss.

My nine battalions are at Trachenberg, whence I shall send them immediately for Brieg; and I imagine they will be five days on their march.

Laudohn marches through Kalisch and Czenstochow. I shall keep pace with him as far as Wartenberg; to which purpose I shall send off five squadrons of cuirassiers. As soon as Laudohn shall be at a distance from that country, we will march directly through Brieg to Lœwen.

I know not how it happens that Laudohn is informed of the march you make; it is not from us that he has heard it; I have not too good an opinion of your secretary: as the enemy employs so much treachery, pay some attention to his conduct, recollecting that we are at a crisis, when it is necessary to be continually diffident.

As soon as you shall arrive at Neiss, you will first receive reports from generals Queis and Gablenz, who are there with the infantry, as well as from Podjurski and Schmettau.

Sixteen battalions are as many as you will want. I have caused the bridge of Oppeln to be broken down, and I know Laudohn has said—
“Should general Fouquet be before me, on the

“side of Cosel and Ratibor, I shall pass the
“Jablunkau.”

Should these operations bring things to the point of rendering it impossible for the enemy to undertake any siege in Silesia, you perhaps may inflict on them a part of the evil which they have done us here, in burning and pillaging. There would be no great harm, therefore, in burning Jägerndorf, and some villages in those environs, on the other side of the Oppa, which will prevent them from keeping so many troops on our frontiers.

FREDERIC,

I am ill; my dear general, which prevents me from writing to you with a certain degree of connection, on all these affairs. I rely on your abilities.

Laudohn should be fourteen days on his march to Oppeln, and fifteen to Ratibor; whence you perceive you will always be able to be much before him.

I embrace you with all my heart.

FREDERIC,

LET-

L E T T E R CXXXI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, October 27, 1759.

I HAVE just received your majesty's orders, of the 26th of this month, and have learnt that general Thiele will arrive here, on the 19th, with five battalions and the hussars of Malakowski, and general Meyer with the regiment of Platen.

I shall depart, on the same evening, to march toward Neifs. It is thirteen miles from the place where we are to that town. I shall hasten my march as much as possible; but, as some snow has fallen, and as it rains every day, I do not think I can reach Neifs before the 31st. I will be as near it however as I can.

General Schenkendorf relieves general Goltz, at Hirschberg, in order that Goltz may take the command here.

Four battalions will remain at Hirschberg, and Goltz will have twelve here; including those of general Thiele, the hussars of Malakowski, and the Platen dragoons.

With respect to the corps of general Queiss,

whole campaign, against ten or twelve thousand light troops, ten regiments of Austrian cavalry, and the whole cavalry of the Russians. Therefore, with twenty squadrons of cavalry and two good regiments of hussars, you may in like manner make head against the cavalry of Laudohn; three regiments of which are totally ruined, and the others have most severely suffered. You must be attentive to assume ground on which the cavalry will have little opportunity to act.

Laudohn has only about eight thousand foot, and his forces daily diminish. They remain five or six days in want of bread, and will be obliged to make a very heavy march, which will at least cost them three thousand men, by desertion. Add to this, these troops are afflicted with the dysentery; and that, consequently, weakness and bad provisions will oblige Laudohn to return, with all the speed he can, into Moravia.

Therefore, far from figuring to yourself great detachments, imagine a new career of glory opening to your view.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LET-

LETTER CXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Landshut, October 10, 1759.

IN obedience to your majesty's orders, of the 9th of this month, I early to-day detached general Werner, with five squadrons of his regiment, and instructed him in all which it was necessary he should observe.

He will hasten his march to Loewen as much as possible, and there will join the five squadrons that come from Breslau, and endeavour to execute his expedition, according to the commands and intention of your majesty.

L. M. FOUQUET.

Here, as with you, sire, there is absolutely nothing new passing.

Harfch and Jahnus still keep the same position, at Schatzlar and Trautenau.

They cause it to be reported that they intend to march toward upper Silesia, but at present not a man is in motion.

As soon as they shall be on the march, I will instantly send off the three battalions destined for Neifs, and will follow them immediately, af-

L E T T E R CXXXII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Neifs, November 1, 1759.

ON my arrival here, I received the gracious letter of your majesty, dated the 31st of the last month.

I find myself obliged to suffer the corps to rest to-morrow, and to provide it with bread, forage, and other subsistence.

The day after to-morrow I shall continue my march, according to the commands of your majesty, and shall endeavour in three days to be at Breslau.

L. M. FOUQUET.

I am delighted, sire, to understand you are recovered. As to the weakness in your legs, that will soon be overcome.

L E T-

LETTER CXXXIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Hundsfelde, November 5, 1759.

I HAVE this day departed, with my corps, for Olau. I have passed Breslau and the Oder, and fixed my quarters here, near Hundsfelde.

General Schmettau has sent me intelligence that Laudohn has retired still further into Poland, and that there is nothing to fear for Militsch; for which reason I shall march my corps toward Wartenberg, and leave general Schmettau at Militsch, posting some battalions and some squadrons in the midway, near Goschutz.

I shall thus find myself more ready to observe the motions of general Laudohn, and to keep pace with him along the frontiers, should it be his intention to advance further toward upper Silesia.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LET.

L E T T E R CXXXIV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Oels, November 9, 1759.

ON my arrival here, on the 7th, I immediately sent my vanguard forward, as far as War-tenberg.

As I have just received advice that general Laudohn is decamped from Zduni and those environs, on his march for Kalisch or Czenstochow, having left some cavalry and Cossacks at Sal-mirschutz, opposite this place, I shall this morning march through Brieg beside the Oder, and through Cosel, and shall post myself in the environs of Gros-Strelitz, or of Tost, and thus endeavour to anticipate the enemy. General Schmettau will remain, with the half of the corps, in the vicinity of Oels, as long as the enemy shall continue stationed opposite to him, and will follow as soon as circumstances will permit.

L. M. FOUQUET.

Marshal Daun very properly testifies the attention and respect which are your majesty's due, since he already begins to retreat to so great a distance. I wish your majesty health and good fortune.

LETTER CXXXV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Cosel, November 20, 1759.

AS it appeared to me to be the intention of general Laudohn directly to take the road of Beuthen and Tarnowitz, through the county of Pleſſe, I have poſted on the frontiers of theſe diſtricts ſome dragoons and huffars, and ſome grenadiers at Tarnowitz. I have ſtationed myſelf, with the remainder of the infantry, in the environs of Coſel, that I may be ready to act.

Laudohn has found himſelf thus obliged to direct his march to Czenſtochow and Cracau; and it is preſumed that he will proceed through Zipſerland, in Hungary. However I have detached general Werner, with his huffars and two hundred foot of the regiment of Alt-Sidow, for Troppau, to make an excursion thither.

On the 18th, he there ſurpriſed the gariſon, which conſiſted of cavalry and croats, and drove it out of the town, making a hot purſuit. A hundred and eighty men were killed, eleven officers and three hundred and eighty-four ſoldiers made priſoners, and eighty horſes were
taken :

taken: the best of them have been selected, and distributed among the dragoons and hussars.

Three officers and a hundred and seventeen soldiers, of the prisoners, were so dangerously wounded that they could not be removed, and were obliged to be left at Troppau, in case of a reverse of fortune. Our whole loss consists in three dead and eleven wounded.

I have at the same time sent colonel Bülow, with six squadrons of dragoons and three squadrons of hussars, toward Czenstochow; and another party likewise to Biala and Bielitz. These are not yet returned.

As soon as I shall be master of these districts, I shall see what can further be undertaken.

I have left general Schmettau, with five battalions, the regiment of Schlaberndorf, and four squadrons of hussars, in the environs of Mjilitzsch and Trachenberg, there to impede the ravages of the enemy.

As I am just informed that the Russians again extend themselves along the frontiers, and are making new incursions, I have written to general Goltz, to reinforce general Schmettau with the regiment of Ramin.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CXXXVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Ratibor, December 8, 1759.

GENERAL Laudohn decamped on the 20th of last month from Czenstochow, and marched toward Cracau. Colonel Bülow was detached thither, and on the 21st arrived at Czenstochow, where he took eight prisoners and some baggage, with the medicinal army-chest; and pursued the enemy above a mile.

Major Rosenkrantz, of the regiment of Werner, made at the same time an excursion to Kent, Biala, and Bielitz, where he found much of the enemy's baggage.

According to advice received, that Laudohn intended to go from Cracau to Bielitz, I sent colonel Bülow with the dragoons, and major-general le Grand with two battalions of grenadiers, to the vicinity of Beron and Plesse; and to support them I likewise sent general Ramin, with two battalions, toward Lossau.

On the 27th, Laudohn attempted to penetrate near Oswienczien and Gottschalkowitz, where he was repulsed by colonel Bülow and general le Grand. The latter, on the 29th, drove off
 4 the

the advanced posts of the enemy, from Dzierzitz and Czechau, between Pleffe and Bielitz, and took two prisoners.

When the Austrians filed off, on the left, the said detachments followed them, on the right.

On the 30th, I marched with six battalions to the neighbourhood of Ratibor, there to hold myself in readiness; and, for this reason, I caused the bridge over the Oder to be repaired.

The same day, the corps of the enemy again attempted to penetrate, near Pleffe; but was again repulsed, by general Werner.

The intention of general Laudohn was to proceed through the duchy of Teschen, into Moravia; there to take up his winter quarters.

General Draskowitz, in order to cover his march, was posted along the frontiers, with twelve battalions; which also occupied Hallschin and Beneschau, near the Oppa, on this side of the frontiers.

On the 6th, both places were attacked at the same time, each by two of our battalions; the garrisons were expelled, a great number of men were killed, and an officer and sixty-six privates were made prisoners.

General Laudohn is at present in the environs of Teschen; and, according to the intelligence we have received, must have lost, by desertion, during

during his march through Poland; more than four thousand men.

As he is at present making arrangements to take up his winter quarters in Moravia, I shall by degrees form a chain, with the corps, similar to that of last year.

L. M. FOUQUET.

“ THE campaign of 1759 was terminated, in upper Silesia, by an agreement, between general Fouquet and general Laudöhn, in which they mutually regulated the manner of guarding the frontiers.

“ The Austrians entered into winter quarters in Moravia, and formed a chain along the frontiers, extending from Grulisch to Bielitz.

“ The corps of general Fouquet covered the frontiers of upper Silesia, and took up its winter quarters, as in the preceding year, in the country between Neustadt and Ratibor. The general quarters were fixed at Leobschutz.

“ On the 18th of January 1760, general Fouquet marched, at the head of eight battalions and eight squadrons, and departed from Leobschutz for Læwenberg.

“ He ordered general Schmettau to advance,

“ who was then posted with a detachment near
“ Lauban, as far as Goerlitz. The command
“ of the forces that remained in upper Silesia
“ was committed to general Goltz ; and gene-
“ ral Schenkendorf continued, with some troops,
“ in the post of Landshut.

“ These different parties, all under the com-
“ mand of general Fouquet, found no oppor-
“ tunity of distinguishing themselves, during the
“ winter. Nothing remarkable passed before
“ the month of March, when general Laudohn
“ made an ineffectual attack on the garrison of
“ Neustadt, but was repulsed by general Goltz,
“ who on that occasion distinguished himself in
“ a very remarkable manner.

“ The correspondence between the king and
“ general Fouquet was discontinued, or at least
“ has not been made public, till the month of
“ June, the two following letters excepted, in
“ the first of which the king very graciously
“ conferred the provostship of the cathedral
“ church of Brandenburg on the general. The
“ practice of rewarding military men with
“ church livings was very common, under this
“ king's reign, and the practice is still con-
“ tinued.”

LETTER CXXXVII.

From the King.

Freiberg, April 22, 1760.

THE provostship of the cathedral church of Brandenburg being now vacant, and at my disposal, by the death of the late prince Maurice of Anhalt, I take this opportunity to prove how highly I am satisfied with your zeal, and unalterable attachment to my service.

This is the motive which induces me to confer on you the benefice in question, with all its annexed privileges, rights, and revenues; in consequence of which I have issued the necessary orders to the minister of state, baron Dankelmann.

But, as there is an article to regulate, concerning a capital of twelve thousand crowns, which the late king my father secured to the said prince Maurice, on the funds of this benefice, to be restored to his heirs by his successor, as prince Maurice was himself obliged to restore to the heirs of Grumbkow, when the said benefice devolved on him, you must make previous stipulations with the heirs of the prince, relative to this article; especially as the above-mentioned

capital will be in like manner secured to your future heirs, as you may convince yourself, from the order I have given, on this subject, to the minister of state, Dankelmann.

I sincerely wish you may enjoy this benefice as many years, at least, as it was enjoyed by the late marshal Grumbkow.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

LETTER CXXXVIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Loewenberg, April 27, 1760.

YOUR majesty seems to have made it a rule to overwhelm me with wealth, notwithstanding the little desire I have for riches; and, to increase my embarrassment, you make me an ecclesiastic.

I should acquit myself as ill of the functions of this profession, were I obliged to officiate, as of the part of Arbates*. I shall however con-

* One of the characters in the tragedy of Mithridates, by Racine. The allusion here is to the theatrical representations, which were a part of the pleasures of the king, during his residence at Rheinberg.

sole myself, provided I can but have the satisfaction of equalling your wishes, during the war, and of aiding the good fortune of your majesty ; to effect which I would most willingly sacrifice the provostship, the chapter, and my life.

I am not in any manner embarrassed, concerning the restitution of the twelve thousand crowns, for which your majesty has but too effectually provided.

L. M. FOUQUET.

“ AT the beginning of May, prince Henry
 “ repaired with a body of troops near Sagan ;
 “ and on the 7th of the same month had an in-
 “ terview with general Fouquet, at Kitlitzreben,
 “ not far from Buntzlau.

“ On the 10th, general Fouquet received the
 “ king’s orders to observe general Laudohn, and
 “ to keep pace with him, on his march along
 “ the Bober and the Oder to Franckfort, should
 “ he attempt to turn on the Brandenburg side,
 “ or to defend Schweidnitz and Breslau, should
 “ he enter Silesia.

“ General Laudohn having extended his
 “ forces along the frontiers, toward Landshut,
 “ in the county of Glatz, general Fouquet aban-
 “ doned Lœwenberg on the 28th of May ; and,

“ on the 30th, marched with his corps to the
“ environs of Frœlichsdorf and Furstenstein,
“ there to observe the motions of general Lau-
“ dohn.

“ Fifteen battalions in reserve remained in
“ the vicinity of Lœwenberg and Lauban, to
“ join the army of prince Henry.

“ General Schenkendorf was posted near Land-
“ shut, with some battalions, subject to the or-
“ ders of general Fouquet.

“ Laudohn had arranged his corps, in two
“ lines, near Franckenstein; one of which ex-
“ tended from Tarnau to Grochau, and the other
“ from Zodel to Baumgarten.

“ By this, general Fouquet found himself in
“ the utmost embarrassment.

“ He foresaw how necessary it was that the
“ post of Landshut should be maintained; not
“ only to defend the pass which leads to the
“ circle of Kœnigsgrätz, through Trautenau
“ into Bohemia, but also to prevent the siege of
“ Glatz; while, on the other side, the king
“ wished his first care should be to defend the
“ fortresses of Breslau, Schweidnitz, Glogau,
“ and Neifs.

“ His corps was too feeble to attend to these
“ different objects.

“ General Fouquet could not, at the utmost,
“ leave

“ leave more than five battalions at Landshut ;
 “ which evidently were in danger of destruc-
 “ tion, should he be at too great a distance.

“ By a single march, Laudohn could be at
 “ the gates of Schweidnitz ; and in two marches
 “ it was equally easy for him to arrive at Bres-
 “ lau, before general Fouquet,

“ In this perplexity, he wrote to prince
 “ Henry, who still remained posted near Sagan,
 “ to send a detachment on the side of Freiburg,
 “ in order to maintain the post near Landshut,

“ The required detachment not arriving, ge-
 “ neral Fouquet saw himself obliged to call in
 “ general Schenkendorf, with his battalions,
 “ from Landshut ; and on the evening of the
 “ 4th of June, to quit Fröhlichsdorf, and fix
 “ his camp near Würben,

“ On the 5th, general Laudohn left Franck-
 “ enstein, with his corps divided into two co-
 “ lumns ; one of which stationed itself near
 “ Nimtsch, and the other near Reichenbach.
 “ General Draskowitz directed his march toward
 “ Franckenstein.

“ This induced general Fouquet to depart
 “ from Würben on the 6th of June, at two
 “ o'clock in the morning, in order to cover
 “ Breslau, and to encamp near Romenau ; after

“ having sent general le Grand forward, as far
“ as Opperau.

“ General Laudohn, seeing his project on
“ Breslau thus rendered ineffectual, quitted
“ Nimtsch on the 7th, and retired by Silber-
“ berg into the environs of Glatz.

“ General Fouquet, at the head of the grena-
“ diers and free battalions, followed ; passing by
“ Canth, Jordansmühle, Nimtsch, and Reichen-
“ bach ; and, after having taken two lieutenants
“ and seventy-five dragoons, from the enemy’s
“ rear-guard, as he retreated among the moun-
“ tains, Fouquet, on the 10th, encamped near
“ Groeditz.

“ Being then informed that two regiments of
“ dragoons, two regiments of hussars, the regi-
“ ment of Laudohn grenadiers, and a party of
“ croats, of the corps of the Austrian general,
“ Nauendorf, had posted themselves near Kleitsch,
“ between Reichenbach and Franckenstein, he
“ on the night of the 13th marched, with six
“ battalions and eight squadrons, to surprise
“ this post ; but his project having come to the
“ knowledge of the Austrian troops, they, in
“ great haste, retired to Silberberg ; so that not
“ above sixty prisoners, and a hundred and
“ twenty horses, were taken.

“ As

“ As soon as general Schenkendorf had quit-
“ ted the post of Landshut, the first act of the
“ Austrians was eagerly to seize on it, their prin-
“ cipal object being to capture Glatz.

“ They made the necessary preparations for
“ the siege, and occupied the pass near Wartha,
“ as well as those passes that lead to the moun-
“ tains. Here they threw up so many intrench-
“ ments, and abatis, that a small army would
“ vainly have endeavoured to relieve Glatz, on
“ that side.

“ Thus circumstanced, general Fouquet
“ thought it more prudent to cover the for-
“ tresses of Breslau and Schweidnitz, and to
“ shelter the open country from the incursions
“ of the enemy, than to endeavour to recover
“ the post of Landshut, which he doubted his
“ ability to defend, with so small a corps, against
“ the numerous armies by which it was sur-
“ rounded.

“ He advised the king to send a detachment
“ into Silesia, with the utmost speed; and, if
“ possible, to make a diversion toward Kœnigs-
“ grätz.

“ The king was disposed to repair thither in
“ person, but was perhaps prevented by acci-
“ dents. In the mean time, he sent express
“ orders to general Fouquet again to render
“ himself

“himself master of, and to maintain, his post
“near Landshut.

“The following letters complete the narra-
“tive of these expeditions.”

L E T T E R CXXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Grœdlitz, June 16, 1760.

I YESTERDAY evening received your majesty's orders, of the 11th of this month, in consequence of which I shall depart to-night for the expedition of Landshut.

Jahns is reinforced by the regiments of foot of Königsfegg and Leopold Palfy, which yesterday arrived from Glatz, with some cuirassiers and hussars.

I hope fortune will second our efforts; though, should the enemy do his duty, success will be very doubtful.

I have no intelligence from D'O; he is so inclosed on every side that no messenger can pass, and those who have made the attempt have been immediately hanged.

The deserters affirm that the artillery, which
7 should

should come from Prague and Olmutz, is not yet arrived ; and that, in the mean time, they have prepared a great number of ladders, for the general assault.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXL.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, June 17, 1760.

I YESTERDAY departed, at ten in the evening, from the environs of Schweidnitz, for the expedition of Landshut, with the major-generals Schenkendorf, Malakowski, le Grand, and colonel Rosen: followed by four battalions of grenadiers, four battalions of musketeers, three battalions eleven squadrons of hussars, and four squadrons of dragoons. I have left general Ziethen, with the rest of the troops, in our former camp, and have ordered him to follow us, on the morrow, and to take post on the Zeiskenberg.

At ten o'clock this morning we arrived at Landshut. The following is a list of the enemy's troops, that occupy this post :

1 regi-

- 1 regiment of Koenigsberg.
- 1 ——— of Simbschen.
- 1 ——— of Preysach.
- 1 ——— of Forgasch.
- 1 ——— of Broder croats.
- 1 ——— of Peterwardein croats.
- 1 battalion of Plate.
- 1 ——— of the archduke Joseph.
- 1 regiment of cuirassiers of Modena.
- 1 ——— of dragoons of the archduke Joseph.
- 2 regiments of hussars.

Generals Gaisrug, St. Ignon, Jahnus, and Gourci, were at the head of these forces. The attack was made on three sides, and the fire of the artillery and the small arms did not cease till four o'clock in the afternoon. The enemy, retiring from one redoubt to another, was at length obliged to abandon his post.

I have taken care to garnish the heights, on which the enemy had almost ruined all the redoubts.

Our prisoners amount only to one captain, two lieutenants, and about fifty soldiers. The reason of this is the great number of the enemies troops, by which their retreat was perfectly covered.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXLI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Landshut, June 19, 1760.

THE corps which we on the 17th of this month obliged to quit the post of Landshut, has stationed itself on the heights near Reich-Hennerdorf; which, as your majesty knows, are in-attackable.

It was yesterday reinforced by the corps of general Wolferdorf; and again to-day by a detachment from the corps of Laudohn..

I have attempted to disturb them, by the fire of the artillery and howitzers, but with little success.

A new detachment, from the troops of Laudohn, has been seen arriving near Friedland, and has advanced to Hartmannsdorf and Wittgendorf, on the Ziegen-Rücken. I might easily attack and repulse this corps, had I no fear that the troops which are now near Reich-Hennerdorf should occupy my post.

Your majesty having various times commanded me not to quit my present post, I will pay exact obedience to these orders, and defend myself to the last extremity.

My

My provision of bread, flour, and forage, will serve me to the end of the present month. I have left general Ziethen and colonel Kleist on the Zeiskenberg, to cover the pass that leads to Schweidnitz, with four battalions and two squadrons of hussars, one of which is now in garrison, at Freiberg. This corps however is very much exposed, in its post; considering that present circumstances disable me from sending any succour thither, if I mean not to risk being too much weakened myself. The troops of Beck advanced, on the 14th, as far as Friedeberg, and Greiffenberg.

It is pretended that the artillery which was expected from Olmutz is arrived, and is at present near Glatz. In obedience to your majesty's orders, general le Grand yesterday departed for Neiss, with a squadron of the Alt-Platen dragoons. Consequently I have only generals Schenkendorf and Malakowski, and colonel Rosen with me.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LET-

LETTER CXLII.

From General Fouquet.

SIR E,

Landshut, June 21, 1760.

I HAVE no doubt but your majesty has received my two reports, of similar contents, of the 19th.

According to your majesty's commands, I have again taken possession of the post of Landshut.

Opposite to me are the corps of Gaisrug and Jahnus; and, on the right as well as on the left, those of Wolferdorf and Nauendorf, to whom Laudohn carefully sends daily succours.

Chained in some manner to a spot, I dare not hazard the least change of position; for I am so near the enemy that we fire at each other with small arms.

All communication with Schweidnitz and with general Ziethen, on the Zeiskenberg, I am cut off from, by the corps of Nauendorf, which is stationed between us; and I presume that general Ziethen will be obliged to quit his post, and to retire to Schweidnitz.

I have no fear that I shall want bread, forage, or pay for the soldiers, before the end of the month.

IN

In this situation, I shall endeavour to support myself to the last extremity, and shall wait for the diversion to be made by your majesty.

I am unable to learn what is passing at Glatz. General Zastrow will inform your majesty of whatever intelligence can be obtained, on this subject; and will only wait your orders, to arrange the necessary provision of bread.

L. M. FOUQUET.

“ ON the 21st, general Laudohn himself arrived, at the head of a considerable army, in the environs of Landshut, and fixed his head quarters at Schwarzwalde.

“ According to a list found among the papers of general Fouquet, the Austrian army collected in this neighbourhood, to attack the post of Landshut, consisted of forty battalions and seventy-seven squadrons, amounting in the whole to thirty-four thousand men. At the head of this corps, exclusive of the grand master of artillery, Laudohn, were six lieutenant-general camp-majors, and thirteen major-generals.

“ The whole Prussian corps, which was to defend the post of Landshut, consisted of no more than fifteen battalions and fourteen squadrons;

“drons; insomuch that, according to the list
 “of this corps on the day of battle, it only
 “amounted to two hundred and fifty officers,
 “five hundred and thirty subalterns, eight thou-
 “sand four hundred infantry, and one thousand
 “five hundred horse; in the whole, ten thou-
 “sand six hundred and eighty men.

“To defend the post of Landshut, against an
 “army of thrice the number, was past dispute a
 “very dangerous project.

“The heights must necessarily be garnished.
 “The extent of the camp considered, its safety
 “could be but feebly provided for; consequent-
 “ly there were intervals of ground, of two thou-
 “sand paces and more, that were left unde-
 “fended.

“General Fouquet neglected nothing to re-
 “establish, with all possible speed, the works
 “which the enemy had demolished. He caused
 “a line of six hundred paces to be drawn, from
 “the Mümel-Schanze to the Leuschner-Berg.

“To defend this line, eight battalions at least
 “were necessary; and he had only two to station
 “there.

“On the evening of the 22d of June, a
 “hundred carriages were sent to Schweidnitz,
 “through Bolkenhayn and Freiburg, for a sup-
 VOL. XIII. X “ply

“ ply of flour. The battalion of Armin, and
“ major Lutz, at the head of two hundred horse,
“ had orders to take post in the environs of Ruh-
“ bank and Einsiedel, to cover this convoy.
“ Motions were observed in the army of the
“ enemy which gave intimation of an intended
“ attack.

“ On the nights of the 22d and the 23d there
“ were very heavy rains.

“ In the vicinity of Hartmannsdorf, and on
“ the roads that lead from Forst, the noise of
“ carts and baggage waggons was heard ; and
“ the Austrian deserters moreover affirmed that
“ the enemy was on the march, to begin the as-
“ fault.

“ They further asserted that general Laudohn
“ had caused a great quantity of brandy to be
“ distributed among the soldiers, to inspire them
“ with courage.

“ Four mortar-grenades thrown up, and burst-
“ ing in the air with a loud explosion, were the
“ signal of attack, which was made on both
“ wings at once.

“ General Laudohn, with sixteen battalions
“ and twenty-four squadrons, assaulted the left
“ wing of the Prussians, which was commanded
“ by colonel Rozen, and consisted of the bat-
“ talion of Woberfnaw grenadiers, the second
“ battalion

“ battalion of Fouquet, the battalion of Mosel,
“ the battalion of Mellin, and three companies
“ of the first battalion of Fouquet.

“ These troops made a most vigorous resist-
“ ance, and sustained a very violent fire from
“ the artillery and howitzers ; when the regiment
“ of Laudohn chaffeurs, suddenly forcing their
“ passage between the Leuschnerberg and the
“ redoubt named Rotkreischam, overthrew the
“ battalion of Mellin, and fell on the rear of the
“ second battalion of Fouquet, which was at the
“ same time attacked in front by some bat-
“ talions of grenadiers.

“ A column of the enemy, of eight battalions,
“ commanded by general Müßling, advanced
“ under the Riegel, on the road from Forst,
“ toward the Mummelloch, made an effort and
“ passed the line which general Fouquet had
“ drawn, and took the battalion of Mosel in
“ flank and rear, and drove it as far as Buch-
“ berg, and to the gates of the town of Landf-
“ hut.

“ Another column of the enemy, of eight
“ battalions, commanded by general Gaifrug,
“ inclined toward the Mummelberg and Buch-
“ berg. These places were defended by three
“ companies of the first battalion of Fouquet,
“ and the battalion of Woberfnow grenadiers.

POSTHUMOUS WORKS.

“ In vain did the Prussian troops make the
“ most courageous resistance ; they saw them-
“ selves obliged to cede to the superiority of
“ the enemy, whose losses were continually re-
“ cruited by new reinforcements.

“ At the moment when the battalions on the
“ left wing gave way, the battalion of Arnim
“ and major Lutz with two hundred and fifty
“ horse arrived, according to the orders of gene-
“ ral Fouquet. Colonel Rosen, though much
“ wounded, placed himself at the head of the
“ battalion of Arnim, to march to the aid of
“ that of Mosel ; but he found himself so dis-
“ turbed, by the fire of the artillery and the
“ musketry, that he was obliged to retire with
“ much loss.

“ General Malakowski cut his road, sword in
“ hand, through this crowd, at the head of his
“ dragoons and his hussars, and retired to the
“ heights on this side the Bober. Major Hofen,
“ with the rest of the battalion of Mellin, threw
“ himself into the redoubt on the Thimberg,
“ near Rothkretscham, where lieutenant Bud-
“ berg was posted, with a platoon of the second
“ battalion of Fouquet.

“ This redoubt was preserved while the left
“ wing of the Prussians was contending ; but,
“ being repulsed, and the enemy meeting with
“ no

“ no impediment, major Hofen and a part of
 “ his men were killed, and the remainder were
 “ taken.

“ The ruins of the battalions of the left wing,
 “ most of which had lost their commanders,
 “ stationed themselves on the Kirchberg; where
 “ before were posted a battalion of the margrave
 “ Henry, and two companies of the first bat-
 “ talion of Fouquet.

“ The right wing of the Prussians, command-
 “ ed by general Schenkendorf, and consisting of
 “ the battalion of Sobeck grenadiers, the free
 “ battalion of Borck, and the two free battalions
 “ of Le Noble and Colignon, was attacked by
 “ the Austrian generals Wolferfdorf and Jahnus,
 “ with sixteen battalions and thirty squadrons.
 “ Notwithstanding the superiority of the numbers
 “ of the enemy, this attack continued above two
 “ hours; but the Austrians at length inclosed
 “ the right wing, and made themselves masters
 “ of the heights.

“ General Fouquet, perceiving that the bat-
 “ talions posted on the hills of Blasdorf were at-
 “ tacked in the rear, detached major Koschen-
 “ bar, with the half of his battalion, to do as
 “ much for the enemy. But major Koschen-
 “ bar was killed, and the remainder of the bat-

“ talion, like the other battalions, saw itself
“ obliged to retreat.

“ The troops of the Prussian battalion of the
“ left wing, that had been vanquished, assembled
“ near the redoubts where the other part of the
“ battalion of Koschenbar was stationed, with
“ three companies of Braun.

“ General Fouquet, having formed these
“ troops, placed himself at their head, charged
“ the Austrians, carried two pair of colours and
“ a standard, and made them retreat as far as
“ Reich-Hennerdorf, where they committed
“ their defence to the discharge of their artillery
“ and bombardment.

“ The enemy, seeing it was useless to attack
“ the front of the right wing of the Prussians,
“ detached the regiment of Simbschen, with
“ some battalions of grenadiers and a very heavy
“ body of horse, to pass the Bober beyond Blas-
“ dorf, with an intent to cut off all retreat from
“ the Prussians. The general therefore found
“ it necessary to send major Owstin, with three
“ squadrons of hussars, on that side, in order at
“ least to secure a passage over the Bober.

“ While the action gradually cooled on the
“ right wing, it became more violent on the
“ left.

“ The enemy advanced, in two columns, by
“ the

“ the village of Zieder, and through the town,
 “ in which there were only sixty men as a gar-
 “ rison, and inclined to the Kirchberg, where
 “ the remainder of the battalions of the left wing
 “ was stationed.

“ In the mean time, the greatest part of the
 “ Austrian cavalry, and some battalions of grena-
 “ diers, passed the Bober, to cut off the retreat
 “ of the Prussians.

“ The enemy's column, which advanced in
 “ the environs of Zieder, and which formed the
 “ left wing of the attack, was received, from the
 “ high redoubts of the Kirchberg, with so hot a
 “ fire, of cannon and musketry, that it found it-
 “ self obliged to retreat, through the same village,
 “ with great loss.

“ But the other column, which formed the
 “ right wing of the attack, crossed the town,
 “ and passed through the protestant burying
 “ place, to advance at all risks toward the
 “ Kirchberg.

“ The battalion of Bülow volunteers, detach-
 “ ed from the Galzenberg to the Kirchberg, to
 “ the support of the troops there posted, at first
 “ repulsed the enemy, but it was turned and
 “ obliged to cede.

“ The enemy profited by the opportunity,
 “ and seized on one of the redoubts on the

“ Kirchberg, by which he was enabled to take
“ the battalion of the margrave Henry in flank,
“ as well as the other battalions that were drawn
“ up on the same ground. Twelve cannon,
“ which the Austrians had planted on the Zie-
“ gelberg, increased the violence of the shock,
“ by an uninterrupted fire.

“ The column of the enemy which had been
“ repulsed recovered breath, and again advanced
“ toward the Kirchberg; so that the brave Prus-
“ sians were once more obliged to yield to num-
“ bers.

“ To cover their retreat, they kept up an un-
“ interrupted fire, according to the rules they
“ had observed on review days, under the inspec-
“ tion of the king. They gained the Galgen-
“ berg; and, the shortest road which leads to
“ the Bober being cut off, they joined the corps
“ of general Schenkendorf.

“ General Fouquet then, despairing of the
“ preservation of the post of Landshut, sent his
“ adjutant Winanco, captain of the engineers,
“ to general Schenkendorf, with orders to re-
“ tire, and pass the Bober with his troops.

“ Winanco was killed, by a bullet, as he was
“ returning to his general; and the adjutant-
“ general, lieutenant Fouquet, was sent with
“ like orders to general Schenkendorf.

“ The general in chief, in the mean while,
 “ sent some of the troops, that he had collected
 “ of the free battalions, beyond the Bober, to
 “ drive the croats from the houses they occu-
 “ pied, and to secure the passage.

“ He soon followed himself, with the remain-
 “ der of the battalion of Bülow volunteers, and
 “ a company of Braun, intending to gain the
 “ heights of Reiffdorf, with the remainder of
 “ the battalions.

“ General Fouquet, having passed the Bober
 “ and the village of Lepperdorf, formed a
 “ square with the above-mentioned troops, and
 “ was immediately attacked, on three sides, by
 “ the Austrian cavalry.

“ Animated by the example of their chief,
 “ who was well determined on self-defence, and
 “ to sell his life or liberty dear, the Prussians
 “ more than once repulsed the Austrians ; and
 “ would probably have cut themselves a road
 “ through the enemy’s squadrons, had not a bat-
 “ talion of grenadiers suddenly come up, and
 “ with its rapid fire reinforced the attack of the
 “ cavalry.

“ General Fouquet, who calmly gave his or-
 “ ders amid the fire, and whose valour would
 “ have become the most glorious victory, had

“ at

“ at this time his horse killed under him, and he
“ fell.

“ The enemy then immediately forced the
“ square. In vain did some soldiers collect round
“ their general, who was thrown from his horse;
“ the dragoons of Lœwenstein massacred all
“ by whom he was surrounded. He himself
“ had already received three wounds with the
“ sabre—in the forehead, on the elbow, and on
“ the back; and was evidently at the moment
“ of death, when Trautschke, his faithful atten-
“ dant, threw himself upon his body, to parry
“ the blows that were levelled at him, repeatedly
“ crying, with all his might—‘ Will you then
“ kill the commander in chief?’—His cries
“ reached the ear of colonel Voit, of the regi-
“ ment of Lœwenstein, though at a distance;
“ and he ran and dispersed the dragoons, and
“ raised the general, covered with his blood.
“ The colonel immediately sent for his parade
“ horse, to offer the general.

“ Fouquet presented his sword to the colonel,
“ but refused to mount the horse. ‘ I am in dan-
“ ger, said he, excusing himself, of sullying this
“ fine furniture with my blood.’

“ Colonel Voit, full of esteem for his priso-
“ ner, replied—‘ My horse furniture will be
“ embellished, if spotted by the blood of a hero.’

“ In

“ In fine, after reiterated entreaties, general
 “ Fouquet mounted the horse, and bore with
 “ him his fortitude, and the ascendancy of hero-
 “ ism, into captivity.

“ General Schenkendorf assembled the re-
 “ mainder of the corps, according to the orders
 “ of general Fouquet, and began to retreat be-
 “ yond the Bober ; but, his horse being killed
 “ under him, he in his turn fell into the power
 “ of the Austrians, by whom he was surrounded.

“ The troops nevertheless continued their
 “ retreat, in all possible order, under the com-
 “ mand of major Arnim, continually defending
 “ themselves against the reiterated attacks of
 “ the enemy.

“ Arnim fortunately gained the heights of
 “ Reisdorff ; but, as he pushed forward toward
 “ the forest, he saw himself stopped by a line of
 “ cavalry that was posted in a valley near Reif-
 “ dorff. Some battalions of grenadiers soon came
 “ up, and the combat recommenced. It was im-
 “ possible for the small Prussian troop to with-
 “ stand their assailants ; and those who did not
 “ fall in the conflict were taken prisoners.

“ General Malakowski, who defended himself
 “ beyond the Bober against the enemy's cavalry
 “ that had surrounded him, encountered the
 “ same fate. He long resisted, but was at length

“ obliged

“ obliged to surrender ; as were lieutenant-co-
“ lonel Papstein, major Bonin, and a party of
“ dragoons and hussars.

“ Major Owstin was the only person who,
“ sword in hand, cut his way through the enemy,
“ with the remainder of the Prussian cavalry.

“ Thus, of the whole corps of Fouquet, only
“ about seven hundred foot, and a thousand dra-
“ goons and hussars, escaped ; and these assem-
“ bled near Gauer, to retreat to Breslau : the rest
“ remained stretched on the field of battle, or
“ were taken.

“ Thus ended the affair of Landshut, after
“ having continued from half after one in the
“ morning till noon.

“ The victory was very advantageous to the
“ Austrians, who now saw themselves in posses-
“ sion of an adversary by whose valour their
“ projects had so often been defeated. But he
“ had cost them dear : they owned themselves
“ to the loss of nine thousand men, killed and
“ wounded ; and their commanders, loudly and
“ universally, did justice to the conduct and in-
“ trepidity of general Fouquet.

“ The king was on his departure from Sax-
“ ony, to bring him a reinforcement, when he
“ was informed of his defeat, and said to the ge-
“ nerals present—‘ Fouquet is taken ; but his
“ captivity

“ captivity is as honourable to himself as it is to
 “ us. He has defended himself like a hero.’

“ The court of Vienna refused to release ge-
 “ neral Fouquet before the peace, which refusal
 “ was to his glory. His captivity however was
 “ not the less severe; nor was it softened by
 “ any mean submission, of which the dignity of
 “ his character rendered him incapable. He
 “ was sent to distant places, and finally to Carl-
 “ stadt, where he had a violent fit of sickness,
 “ which very considerably injured his constitution.

“ At the conclusion of the peace, the empress
 “ sent major Blankenfeld to invite him to Vi-
 “ enna, and gave him to understand he might
 “ there enjoy all possible distinction; and, should
 “ he please, might recover his effects, jewels,
 “ and very valuable engravings, which had been
 “ taken at the surrender of Glatz, by which the
 “ general had been a great sufferer. This offer
 “ was politely refused: he spoke of the empress
 “ with the most profound respect; but added,
 “ It is impossible for me to kiss the hand that
 “ has struck so unfeelingly.

“ The general entirely relied on the king;
 “ and on the 15th of April 1763 repaired to
 “ Glatz, where he received the most unequivocal
 “ marks of the kindness of his majesty.

“ The remainder of the correspondence is
 “ descriptive

“descriptive of the attention of the king to general Fouquet, and of the resignation of the “general, during the decline of his health.”

L E T T E R CXLIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

July 21, 1763.

I SEND you the so long expected service of plate, which at length is finished. May you, to your great satisfaction, live to employ it for many years.

I beg you will let me know the state of your health. I have a great inclination to send Cottenius * to you, that you may take good remedies, and not drugs that are of no service. But I wait your answer, assuring you of my sincere and perfect friendship.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

* The king's physician.

L E T-

LETTER CXLIV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, July 25, 1763.

I HAVE lost nothing by having waited. Far from that, your favours, your benefits, as well as the beauty and magnificence of the service of plate which your majesty has sent me, greatly surpass my expectations.

A hundred times do I reflect, and say to myself—"Why and from what motives does this great king, this man, this dear and worthy monarch, heap his bounties on me thus? And, more than these, why has he, for more than thirty years, honoured me with uninterrupted friendship?"

Pardon the expression, sire, but I know none of such worth, or so glorious to me: my vanity is too much flattered by it; but my mind is bewildered, and I can discover no other reason which can make me attribute to myself all these acquisitions. For, sire, notwithstanding the knowledge you possess of the characters of men, you never can penetrate the recesses of my heart. But these feelings alone must console me, and
be

be as a substitute ; I not having any means of proving the sincerity of my sentiments.

My health, fire, is good, since I do not feel any pain. I sleep tolerably well, and my appetite is passable, thanks to the chocolate and the bark of your majesty, to which I attribute these effects. This is the smiling side of the picture ; and, in opposition, my legs, my hams, my lungs, and my voice, are disordered by the least agitation.

I am no longer good for any thing ; nor am I fit for aught but the life of a canon, and ease. To crown your favours, fire, suffer me to enjoy this for the remainder of my days. I will sing hymns to your glory, and pray for the prosperity of your incomparable person, to the last moment of life.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXLV.

From the King.

July 30, 1763.

THAT the present I have sent you should be agreeable to you was the end and purpose, my dear general, of my wishes.

Why

Why should you be astonished that I should love you? You ought rather to wonder, were I not to love an officer of reputation, an honest man, and what is more my old friend.

I wish your health were entirely restored. Nor I confess do I yet despair. You must take care of yourself; keep yourself at your ease, and suffer tranquillity, herbs, and the bark, to restore your strength.

Remain at Brandenburg as long as you please, except coming sometimes to see me. The distance is not great; and, when I know it is your intention to come, I will send my horses to meet you half way.

Adieu, my dear friend. I am yours in heart and soul.

FREDERIC.

P. S. My sister of Sweden and all her family are here.

L E T T E R CXLVI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

October 4, 1763.

I SEND you a large glass, which I have lately found, at Berlin, as part of the succession

VOL. XIII.

Y

of

of my father. I wish it may amuse you for a moment.

I hear not a word concerning you, except from strangers, who pass through Brandenburg. Have you forgotten me; or will you do me the pleasure to come and see me, when it will be no inconvenience to you?

, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXLVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, Oct. 6, 1763.

I HAVE defects with which I am acquainted, without being able to correct them; but the sin of ingratitude is a sin unknown to me.

Let your majesty therefore judge whether it be possible I should forget my august benefactor. No; I do not believe an hour in the day passes in which I do not think, with all possible sensibility, of my obligations to your majesty.

I return you thanks, sire, for the fine glass which you have sent me; it will embellish my buffet, in company with those which I found at Glatz.

Cold,

Cold, which I formerly preferred to heat, no longer agrees with me. I have been troubled with the colic during three days, from having walked in the open air, and eaten some fruit. I close up and lift every aperture in the house, to preserve myself from the cold; and I pass condemnation on the doors and chimneys, in order that your majesty should no more be exposed to draughts of air, in the chamber in which you lodge, should you ever pass through Brandenburg. I request the favour of a dispensation from your majesty during the cold weather.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXLVIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

December 2, 1763.

I SEND you some Turkish coffee, given me by a Mamamouchi. You would entirely forget me, did not I remind you of myself. For this I shall soon have a new opportunity, which I shall eagerly seize.

Adieu, my dear friend. Preserve a corner in your heart for me.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXLIX.

From General Fouquet.

Brandenburg, December 6, 1763.

GREAT God ! What a man hast thou bestowed upon us ! The government of his states, his army, his Turkish trade, his palaces, and a thousand other cares, the conduct of Europe and Asia, committed to him : these all are nothing, and cannot afford him sufficient employment ; he still must think of sending me coffee ! Why, fire, can you not govern the whole world, and see no end to your labours ?

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CL.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

December 16, 1763.

FIVE thousand crowns are consigned over to you, now lying in the hands of Buchholtz, treasurer of the *hof-skaats-casse* *, which you may

* Or of the court.

draw

draw for whenever you please; these will serve to pay a part of your debts to the heirs of prince Maurice, for your house at Brandenburg.

Health to you, my friend. Take care of yourself, that I may have the pleasure of seeing you again at Sans-Souci.

Adieu. I embrace you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R C L I.

From General Fouquet,

S I R E,

Brandenburg, December, 22, 1763

PRINCE Maurice and his heirs have long since been paid. To heap wealth thus upon me is a waste of treasure. You have, in your bounty, put me in possession of an income more than enough to support me honourably. Permit me, sire, to enumerate my riches. I have nineteen thousand crowns placed in the Landschafft at Berlin, &c. &c. and, to increase my embarrassment, five thousand crowns more in ready money, of which I can make no use, unless your majesty should do me the favour to place them in the same Landschafft, and to lighten instead of increase my load. You have moreover fur-

Y 3

nished

nished my house like a prince. This is more than remuneration for all which the devil detains in his clutches, I mean the Austrians; nor have I merited so many proofs of your bounty.

Do not, sire, be angry with me, for entreating you to limit your pecuniary donations, and to remain persuaded that the assurances which your majesty gives me of your inestimable friendship, and even your bag of coffee, are to me infinitely preferable to all the thousands of silver, or of gold, you could offer.

I am inviolably, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLII.

From the King.

April 10, 1764.

I AM returned, my dear friend, from Silesia and Glatz, where I found every thing better than I expected.

I have there met with porcelain, which I send you, as a remembrance of me, till I can present to you some of the porcelain of my Berlin manufactory.

Those persons who have seen you tell me that
you

you look well, but that you are feeble. I have still some Rhenish wine, of the growth of the year 1684 ; if you wish to have some of it send me word, and it shall be at your service. I have also some old Hungarian wine. Speak but the word, and some of it is yours.

Let me know when you mean to come to see me, for this I still expect.

We are labouring, body and soul, at present, to restore affairs to some order : they begin to be in a train ; and I own I take some pleasure in once again perceiving a reform in that army which I formerly knew to be so good, which I have beheld ruined by bloody wars, and which, like a phoenix, revives from its ashes.

Adieu, my good and dear friend. I love you with all my heart. Of this, and of the esteem I have for you, rest persuaded.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, April 12, 1764.

I TAKE all imaginable part in the satisfaction which your majesty has received, from

Y 4

your

your journey into Silesia; which indeed is entirely due to the conduct you observed there, during the war, and the good arrangements you have made, since the peace. One or two harvests like the preceding will recover the country, and the people will spring up as fast as the corn.

My opinion, relative your army, fire, is that two years will not only put it on a good footing, but that it will even surpass, in intrinsic valour, that of its first campaigns; since we were then all apprentices, and learning our trade; whereas three fourths of the present army have made war, and you have formed many officers.

I am penetrated, fire, by your gracious remembrance of me, in sending me porcelain, which I think infinitely beautiful. I wish it may be equalled by the manufactory of Berlin, not being able to imagine it can be surpassed.

Those persons who informed you of the state of my health judged exceedingly well. Seated, or at table, I have a good appearance; but my body, my legs, and my voice, seem to me to weaken continually. I have an inclination to begin to take whey and green herbs, on the 10th or the 15th of May, for three weeks. Dispose of me, fire; do you determine whether I ought to enjoy the happiness of throwing myself at your feet

feet before or after my cure, or even without taking my remedy.

Since I am to choose between old drugs, I think I should prefer the ancient oxycrate of the Rhine to the hippocras of Hungary.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CLIV.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

April 18, 1764.

I SEND you some of the vinegar of the Rhine, according to your request. I wish it may increase your strength, and recover your health. I will not interfere with your use of whey, for I suppose our exercise and all our military paraphernalia no longer affect you.

I intend to come and see you, on my return from the reviews at Magdeburg; after which I shall tranquilly retire to my habitation of Sans-Souci. Should you then wish to come and see me, you will give me pleasure. We shall be alone, undisturbed by company, nor will you be under any constraint.

Do not speak with contempt of my porcelain manufactory.

manufactory. My china is more beautiful than that of Meissen ; but the china-house will not be entirely finished, with its twelve ovens which are building, before the month of September. This prevents us from working in wholesale at present. More beautiful china however is made there than ever was imagined at Meissen. Of this I will give you specimens, as I pass ; and by autumn we shall have whole services, with every thing we could wish.

Adieu, my dear friend. Do not forget the absent, especially me, for I love you tenderly.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLV.

From the King.

April 21, 1764.

AFTER having insulted my porcelain manufactory, I am obliged, my dear friend, to do it justice. I send you a breakfast set, as beautiful as any that ever was made at Meissen ; and you will at the same time receive a cup, with painted figures, which will convince you that our workmanship is at least equal to that of Saxony. We are wasting our powder, here, on the sparrows.

The weather is cold, but it does not prevent us from continuing our train.

Adieu, my dear general. I wish you health, content, and long life.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE, Brandenburg, April 22, 1764.

NOTHING is more humiliating than to be under the necessity of retracting. Cost what it may, however, I feel myself sufficiently above this false shame, being likewise naturally inclined to sincerity and truth, to find any repugnance to the acknowledgment of my errors; I therefore declare in favour of the porcelain manufactory of your majesty; as well because of the relief of the work as the vivid colours of the tea set, which are superior to any I have ever seen of Saxony. As for the mosaic cup, I imagine I discover in it the pencil of Watteau, it is so charming.

Your majesty has a talent peculiar to yourself, since, instead of punishing the rashness of my doubts, I find them rewarded by this beautiful present.

Were

Were it not from the fear of being a second time punished, I should perhaps make another reflection, and should enquire whether the expert artists of your manufactory may not resemble those mechanics who are successful only in their small models.

You have, no doubt, fire, added half a year to my life, by having sent the oxycrate, which I shall take medicinally.

I am much affected by so many benefits; and what mortifies me most is the impossibility of proving my gratitude, and of testifying the reality of my zeal for your majesty, and the attachment and fidelity I have for your person.

Live, fire, for the good of the state and your own glory. Discipline, manœuvre your men, and sometimes suffer yourself to be a little in a passion; for all these things will contribute to your health, according to the system of the late old fox*.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

P. S. Your majesty will be very welcome at Brandenburg, and will find the pot of a refugee boiling at noon.

* Prince Leopold of Anhalt.

LET-

LETTER CLVII.

From the King.

April 27, 1764.

I AM charmed with your confession, my dear friend, of the goodness of my porcelain. We only wait till the building be finished to work in the great. This cannot take place before Whitsuntide, at which time there must be six large ovens to bake the china; so that the work will not really be in train before the middle of September. Some large pieces have already been made, in the two furnaces that we have, which have succeeded very well; but we have received orders from Russia and Holland, to execute which we are labouring with all speed.

I at present keep five hundred and seven persons employed in the manufactory. Nothing stops us but the want of ovens; and this obstacle will be removed by the month of September.

You imagine, my dear general, I am as passionate now as formerly; but in that you are deceived. I have mixed water with my wine; and though, indeed, I correct whatever is defective in discipline, I do not put myself the least

out of temper. Whatever relates to the common soldier will next year be in as much order as before the war; but my greatest attention is paid to the officer. That officers may become vigilant in the service, hereafter, and that they may form their judgments, I cause them to be taught fortification; add to which, endeavours are made to oblige them to reason on whatever they have to do.

You will perfectly perceive this method cannot be generally successful; but, from the multitude, some good officers may be obtained, who shall not be generals merely by commission, but really possess the qualities of the general.

Adieu, my dear friend. I will inform you when I can come to Brandenburg. I embrace you with all my heart.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLVIII.

From the King.

June 1, 1764.

THE reason I do not write to you myself, my dear friend, is that I have the gout in my left hand. Perhaps you may answer I may guide

guide the pen with my right, but the paper slips away, and I would not fatigue your eyes with a cat's scrawl.

This accident, which has happened to me very unseasonably, has prevented me from reviewing the regiments of Pomerania and the New March; and has obliged me to defer the review of the regiments of Magdeburg two days.

I shall visit you like an old friend, without ceremony, as I pass through Brandenburg. I shall be there on the 4th at noon. I shall bring with me one friend only, who is well worthy of your friendship and esteem; therefore, if you think proper, we three only shall be present.

You must make no great provision for me; all I ask is a good soup, a plate of spinach, a hearty welcome from my host, and to find you in good health. The last article is what I recommend most to your care.

Adieu, my dear friend. I hope I then shall assure you of my whole esteem.

FREDERIC.

L E T.

L E T T E R CLIX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, September 26, 1764.

THE proverb says the dearest things are the sweetest. If so, I have reason to suppose your majesty, after having been jolted over the alps of Silesia, must be exceedingly well satisfied with your journey. I wish you never may, sire, and have good reason to suppose you never will, make the tour of your provinces, without recollecting the labour which the glory of the conquest of them has cost you.

May you, sire, taste repose, if any there be for you! May Sans-Souci present its excellent fruits to you! Please to accept my thanks for the care with which Krutisch* has provided for me, during your absence.

Continue in good health, sire; and may all your enterprizes be prosperous.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

* The king's head gardener.

LETTER CLX.

From the King.

September 26, 1764.

I AM exceedingly sensible of those sentiments of attachment which you are kind enough to renew, in your letter of to-day, on occasion of the agreeable journey which I have made into Silesia.

I have found things in a tolerably good state, and am only sorry to have seen your son-in-law* there in a very lingering condition, which gives reason to apprehend he will soon cease to live.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

P. S. I am now returned, my dear general. I may say of my œconomical and military journey, that, though I have not found all things equally well, all at least is passable.

* Colonel Nimscheffki.

L E T T E R CLXI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

October 19, 1764.

I HAVE received the Perigord pie from Brandenburg*. I kept it to know whether you would not come and eat part of it. I am alone; if the journey will not incommode you, and if you are not detained by other reasons, it only depends on yourself to pay a short visit to your friend.

Poor Nimscheffki, who was a good and worthy officer, is lately dead. I am sorry for it; but we shall soon travel after him, into a country from which no one returns.

We have practised some manœuvres, which have in part succeeded. The officers of rank are not yet sufficiently formed. Some years more will be necessary, to wind up the machine

* The king was fond of truffles, and annually sent for a Perigord pie. General Fouquet had brought some dogs from Croatia, that had been taught to un-earth truffles; and some were found in the neighbourhood of Magdeburg and Halberstadt, which were equal to those of Italy; of which the general had a pie made, in imitation of the Perigord pies, and sent it to the king, who thought it very good.

to its ancient degree of tension. I however am growing old; and I ought rather to think of greasing my wheels, for the great journey, than of exercising troops that, according to all appearances, I never more shall lead against an enemy.

Adieu, my dear general. Health, content, and good humour, are what I most cordially wish you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E, Brandenburg, October 22, 1764.

THE return of my servant informed me too late of the honour your majesty designed me, at noon; not to mention that I found an impediment to my going thither in the hemorrhoides, with which I am troubled, and which I am endeavouring to remove. The gracious commands of your majesty allow me to allege these reasons.

Let me entreat you to grant me the enjoyment of that repose, and warmth, which are requisite for my valetudinarian state of health, during this season of the year; that I may, if possible, not too hastily follow colonel Nim-

Z 2

scheffski,

scheffiki, in whom you have lost a very worthy and good officer. Not that I fear death; but I have no objection to enjoy, for a time, that tranquillity and those sweets which your bounty has procured me. These are doubly agreeable, from learning, as I do, that your majesty is in good health, which I attribute to your daily walks.

May you plant elm-rows, and fifty years in succession build colonnades and palaces; after which may you mount, in the chariot of Elijah, immediately to paradise.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXIII.

From the King.

October 26, 1764.

REMAIN by your fire-side, my dear friend, since heat is salutary to you. Preserve yourself; that is your first duty: and afterward, when you have nothing better to do, think occasionally on your absent friend.

I can well conceive you must sensibly feel the loss you have suffered. Your son-in-law was young, he had escaped all the dangers of a bloody war, and now is dead at the moment
when

when he was to have reaped the reward of his services. This is afflicting; but we must say like the Lacedemonian woman, who was told that her son had been killed in battle—"I knew "when I brought him into the world he was not "immortal." A little sooner, or a little later, to this we must all come: such has been the fate of preceding generations, and such must be ours. While however we are in the world, it is but just to enjoy when we can, and to taste the sweets of life, which may serve as an antidote to the bitter draughts with which the cup of every man is empoisoned.

I thank you for your Magdeburg truffles. Noel has made a pie of them; and, as you could not taste your own, I send you mine.

Adieu, my dear friend. Continue in good health; banish melancholy from your mind; and preserve my friend, whom I shall never cease to esteem, till I shall cease to live.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXIV.

From the King.

DEAR FRIEND,

December 19, 1764.

I SEND you a small mark of remembrance. I intend to present you with a table service, and some vases, but these we cannot have sooner than the month of March, when the whole manufactory will be completed, and in a condition to supply whatever we please.

Continue in good health, and never forget your old friends.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, December 24, 1764.

THOUGH the receipt of your beautiful porcelain gave me great joy, this joy was nevertheless surpassed by the satisfaction I felt at the success of your manufactory, since it is your own product, your own work, and corresponds to all

I

your

your other enterprizes. I congratulate your majesty, and have no doubt but this grand and fine establishment will soon attain the utmost degree of perfection.

Accept, sire, the sincerest wishes of my heart, on the coming year, for your preservation and your health.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXVI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

February 10, 1765.

I SEND you a part of a real Perigord pie with truffles, that came from that country. I wish the flavour may please you, and that this opportunity may procure me news of your health; for, though a neighbour, I do not hear a word from you; yet no person is more interested in your happiness than your old and faithful friend,

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, February 11, 1765.

I AM most sensible of your bounty and gracious recollection, and am much rejoiced to see your majesty in repose; for rest seems most necessary, fire, occasionally to be indulged in, at your age, if we wish to prolong life. The difference between the original Perigord pie and the Brandenburg copy seems to me very remarkable. I am obliged to do justice to that of Sans-Souci; and, according to my taste, I think the seasoning of Sir Noël is superior even to the original.

My health is very equivocal. I never leave my inclosure, except to go to church, there to pray for your majesty's prosperity; or occasionally to un-earth a badger. I live very retired, and see no company, except some officers of the garrison, my colleagues; and my daughter, who is lately come to settle at Brandenburg, with her daughters Henrietta and Wilhelmina of Nimcheffski, of whom her deceased husband has appointed me the guardian. In this character I venture to petition your majesty to be pleased,
some

some day, to grant them places in the chapel of Halle.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CLXVIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

March 11, 1765.

I RETURN from Berlin, where I have been to see my porcelain manufactory. I there found two vases and a basin; and, thinking they might give you pleasure, I send them you. The great chimneys are not yet entirely finished; they are at work on them, and in six weeks at the latest we may have what we please. I shall not forget you, whenever I find any thing worthy to embellish your retreat.

Adieu, my dear friend; let me know how you do.

LET.

L E T T E R CLXIX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, March 15, 1765.

I DO not think a child with his Christmas box could feel greater joy than I did, when I received your vases and your basin ; they are perfectly beautiful, as well for the whiteness of the china, as in excellence of taste and colours. I am convinced that neither Japan nor Europe ever produced any thing equal, or in so short a space of time.

My all on earth, sire, at present, is a wish worthily to acknowledge the many favours with which your majesty deigns to load me.

My health is passable; my voice continually becomes weaker ; there are some days on which I can scarcely make myself heard.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LET.

LETTER CLXX,

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

April 25, 1765.

I HAVE for these five weeks had the gout and the hemorrhoides, in a more violent manner than I ever had before; but, as the worst is over, and as I am now on the recovery, one of the first things I have to do is to let you hear from me.

I hope for the return of good news on your part, and to be told that your health is better. I flatter myself, my dear general, what I now write will not be disagreeable to you, and that your answer will ease my fears concerning the state of your health.

Adieu, my dear friend. I embrace you with all my heart, and hope you will not be vexed that I intend to visit you as I go to Magdeburg.

FREDERIC.

LET-

L E T T E R CLXXI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, April 28, 1765.

TO hear that your majesty is convalescent inspires me with the greatest possible joy, and I most humbly return your majesty thanks for the agreeable news which you have been pleased to send me.

I have supposed myself present, during your violent fits of the gout, till your pain has even made me grind my teeth. This apparently has at the same time increased the pain of a swelling in my legs, with which I have for some weeks been incommoded.

By the aid of whey, I begin to be better. But I have your majesty's health more at heart than my own; and I venture to conjure your majesty to take every possible means, during the fine weather, that may concur to the recovery of your strength.

You will be a welcome guest at Brandenburg, and I shall think myself too happy and too much honoured in my retreat, by making the pot boil for your majesty.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXXII.

From the King.

June 6, 1765.

I SHALL be with you on the 9th at noon, my dear friend, and shall come alone, which will require neither banqueting nor expence. The pot boiling, literally understood, will be sufficient. I hope to find you in good health, cheerful, and happy.

We have found some bad, some good, at the review, which neither resembled those of Berlin nor of Stettin; but we shall do better in time.

Adieu, my dear friend; I most tenderly embrace you.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXXIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

June 26, 1765.

I SEND you some fruits, from Sans-Souci. I have something more for you, which I wish to give you myself. The court of Brunswick will be here on the 10th of next month. I now

have time which is at your disposal, do but choose your day.

Adieu, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXXIV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, June 27, 1765.

SINCE the creation of Brandenburg, never, according to all appearances, were seen, at this time of the year, such variety of fruits as your majesty has just sent me.

You add your commands, sire, to come and gather for myself, which I certainly shall not fail to obey.

The sieur Cothenius, having prescribed bathing for a fortnight, by which I found relief, I entreat your majesty's permission to continue it till next Saturday; that, on the Sunday after, I may have the happiness to throw myself at your feet, and to testify how sincerely I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T-

L E T T E R CLXXV.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

September 16, 1765.

I AM returned from Silesia. The waters of Landeck have restored me the use of my limbs, and I do not at present seem to have had the gout.

I found your regiment in better order than ever. Luck is an exceedingly good officer, and one who serves from motives of honour and ambition.

I hope my gardener has supplied you well, during my absence. I shall now be myself your purveyor, and furnish your house with fruit, or whatever can be most agreeable to you. But I require you should write me news of your health, that my mind may be at ease concerning my good old friend, whom I shall love to the end of life.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

L E T -

L E T T E R CLXXVI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, September 16, 1765.

THE confirmation which I have just received, from your majesty, of the good effects which the waters of Landeck have produced, has given me extreme joy.

Your satisfaction, sire, is mine; it is my sole consolation. I shall never cease to pray, most sincerely, for the health of your majesty.

I feel great satisfaction at understanding that you found my regiment in good order. Lieutenant-colonel Luck announced to me, with great joy, the real marks which your majesty has given him of your gracious approbation; which cannot but induce him continually to render his zeal for your service more apparent.

You command me, sire, to send you news of my health. For near four weeks I have been afflicted with the sciatica. I thought proper to take the balsam of Mecca, about fifteen or twenty drops of which I had remaining, which served me as many days. I find myself more light and much eased.

I return your majesty thanks for your excellent fruit; and am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXXVII.

From the King.

September 18, 1765.

FORTUNATELY, my dear friend, I still have a bottle of the balsam of Mecca, which the Effendi gave me. This I send you with all imaginable pleasure, and with a thousand wishes that the balsam may do you every possible good.

Continue in good health, and do not forget the most faithful and the oldest of your friends.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXXVIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, Sept. 19, 1765.

THE bottle of balsam, which your majesty has done me the favour to send me, is just delivered.

Never did prince take more care for his servant, than your majesty does for my health.

What distinguishes your majesty, from other princes, is that you act thus in favour of a man

VOL. XIII.

A a

who

who is unable to testify his gratitude, by the least service. How afflicting, sire, is my fate, to be unable to answer so many acts of bounty, except by those sentiments of attachment, and inviolable fidelity, in which I shall to the last moment of life remain, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXXIX.

From the King.

December 31, 1765.

A HAPPY new year to you, my dear friend. I send you a present, such as well may be sent from one old man to another, that is, an easy chair, which you may raise or lower at your pleasure; some true balsam of Mecca, for the recovery of your strength; and some trifles from my porcelain manufactory, for your amusement. When I shall see you at Potsdam, in the summer, I will present you with something more solid.

In the mean time, my dear friend, accept my good wishes for increasing health, and my assurances that no person is more interested in your welfare than is your old and faithful friend.

FREDERIC.

LETTER CLXXX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, January 3, 1766.

YOUR majesty would certainly not have been the first to send your compliments, on the new year, had I not refrained from motives of attention and prudence. But I am well persuaded that, of all the compliments you will receive on this occasion, there certainly, sire, are none which can surpass the sincerity of my heart, or of my wishes for your welfare and glory.

I thank you, sire, for the beautiful and excellent new year's gifts, which you have had the kindness to send me, and I congratulate your majesty, on the satisfaction you must feel at the success of your porcelain manufactory; especially as the last china is still superior, in beauty, to all the preceding.

I will make a good use of my easy chair, and will slumber in it as well as I am able.

The first bottle of the balsam of Mecca sent by your majesty having done me good, and cured my spasms and sciatica, I have reason to hope that the second will effect the rest; except

A 2 2

restoring

restoring me to freedom of breathing, and of utterance; for my voice seems continually to become weaker.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXXXI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

January 9, 1766.

I AM delighted to find the trifles I sent were agreeable to you. I have given you the last bottle of balsam of Mecca I had; but I will write to Constantinople to have more in reserve, should you wish me so to do.

Our holidays resemble the working days of Brandenburg; we have neither plays nor any other diversions, because of a family mourning, by which I am very sensibly afflicted. However I have taken off the prohibition for the last fortnight, to oblige our youth, who are but little affected by the sorrows of others.

Your tobacco shares prosper well, and I flatter myself you will have reason to be satisfied with them.

Adieu, my dear friend; take good care of

your health, and depend on the sincerity of my affection, which ever will be what it ever has been.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXXXII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, January 9, 1766.

I AM penetrated so much, by all the favours you confer on me, that I never can return you proper thanks, as well for the care which your majesty is pleased to take of my health as for that which you are pleased to take of my interest. The latter induces me to request a new favour, from your majesty.

At the taking of Glatz, I lost all my securities, which I possessed, to the amount of eighteen thousand five hundred crowns, on your Landtschaft of Berlin, and an account of which I here send. I therefore entreat your majesty, in order that my family may not suffer, to grant me new securities, conformable to the first, which were signed by your own hand.

We are authorized, as well by reason as by custom, to moderate grief as well as joy; consequently

frequently your majesty may, without scruple, partake of the pleasures of the season.

As your majesty is in good health at the beginning of your climacteric year, I flatter myself your life will be of long duration.

I am, &c,

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXXXIII.

From the King,

January 12, 1766.

THE letter which you sent me dated the 9th I have received, and have with pleasure seized this opportunity of testifying my good will, by obliging you. I have sent precise directions to the Landschaft, in order that new contracts may be made out, and brought me, according to the enumeration, which you remitted me, of the money you placed in those funds.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

P. S. I will remit your receipts, my dear friend, as soon as they shall be sent to me.

L E T-

LETTER CLXXXIV.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

February 9, 1766.

I SEND you a small stock of Italian truffles, which I have procured by the way of Vienna. I wish they may be agreeable to you, and may incite your appetite.

I am here tranquilly waiting, in my hole, for the return of spring. This is no season for us; we old men revive but in spring, and vegetate in summer; whereas winter is only good for hot-headed and impetuous youth that cools itself on the ice, and with snow-balls.

Adieu, my dear friend. My prayers are for your preservation, and for all which can add to the pleasures of your life.

FREDERIC.

LETTER CLXXXV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, February 11, 1766.

I RETURN thanks for the Italian truffles which your majesty has sent me. Those persons

A 2 4

who

who have tasted both kinds think the truffles found in your good countries of Magdeburg and Halberstadt, are infinitely the best. The length of the journey of the first may be the reason of this.

May your majesty long enjoy every viand, and every sweet this earth can afford, of which no person is more worthy than yourself.

I flatter myself, sire, you will live much longer than to my present age of sixty-nine; especially after the effect produced by the waters of Landeck, which have so far confirmed your health as to enable you to support both cold and heat, in those seasons when you make your reviews.

I am becoming deaf, sire, and it is with the utmost difficulty that I can make myself understood.

Your servant is slowly preparing to begin his great journey. Be it soon or late, or how it may, remain persuaded, sire, that I love you, am most inviolably devoted to you, and that my profound respect will continue to the last breath of life.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LET-

LETTER CLXXXVI.

From the King.

February 16, 1766.

YOUR letter, my dear friend, has made me melancholy. You speak of your departure; did it depend on me, my wish is to preserve you as long as possible. Men are every where met with, but men so honest and friends so faithful as you most rarely. Take all possible care of yourself, that I may not lose you so soon; and remember the affliction I should feel, were I to be separated from you eternally.

Deafness is nothing; there are ear-trumpets, which facilitate the power of hearing. The late madame de Rocouille made use of these, and I will have some made for you; so that I hope, by the aid of fine weather, you will recover your strength, and that I shall still have the pleasure of enjoying your company at Sans-Souci.

Fully persuaded of this, let me beg you to take every precaution you can, that I may have the happiness again to embrace you, and to afford you marks of my sincere tenderness.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CLXXXVII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, February 19, 1766.

TO answer your kindness is impossible. My cheeks are suffused by a torrent of tears; my heart is overburthened, and expressions I have none. Of all my consolations, that which flatters me the most is that you should esteem me among the number of your friends, Yet who am I, that I should be thus favoured? Like Me-
phibosheth, I am but a dead dog.

It is not customary with princes to have hearts so tender. How then, sire, can you, who surpass all princes, have so much affection for your friends? The uncommonness and the high worth of this quality I well feel.

Heaven, sire, is my witness, I do not think it possible to surpass the sentiments of attachment in which I hold your august person.

My decline is general. I speak but little, because of the difficulty with which I am understood; and, like the late general Rochow, I cannot even articulate the words I wish to pronounce.

The fine weather perhaps will effect some
6 change,

change, and will procure me the only pleasure to which I aspire, in this world, which is that of seeing your majesty.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CLXXXVIII.

From the King.

February 24, 1766.

I WELL perceive, my dear friend, you must fortify yourself. Two days ago, we wished to taste some of the Hungarian wine of my grandfather, which was found to be good. I kept a bottle, which I here send you. It is the last: may it be serviceable to you!

If you wish for other old wines, I have them of every kind; and it will give me true pleasure to send you a supply. You have only to say the word.

I wish a thousand times for your preservation, and embrace you with all my heart.

Adieu, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

L E T.

L E T T E R CLXXXIX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE, Brandenburg, March 2, 1766.

WHAT a pity is it, and what a loss, to deprive your majesty of the most delectable of wines, and to be so opposite in taste to Saint Luke! This holy man, no doubt advanced in years and with a debilitated stomach; thought, like a good judge, that old wine was preferable to new. Notwithstanding the contrary sentiments of your majesty, I shall never cease most ardently to wish for the preservation of your precious life.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXC.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

April 16, 1766.

I SEND you some vegetables, and what our garden can best afford. I hope they will give you pleasure, that you will eat them in good health, and that while eating you will remember your old friend.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXCI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE, Brandenburg, April 17, 1766.

I RETURN thanks for the vegetables which your majesty has sent me. Productions so premature are to be found only at Sans-Souci.

Equally penetrated by joy, to hear you are in good health, and by gratitude, for your majesty's gracious remembrance of me, I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXCII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND, May 31, 1766.

I INVITE myself without any ceremony, authorised by friendship so to do, to dinner with you, on the 2d of June, which is the day after to-morrow.

I previously enjoy the pleasure I shall have to embrace you, my dear Fouquet. I shall be with you at eleven o'clock.

Adieu, my dear friend.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXCIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

July 5, 1766.

I SEND you some fruits out of my garden. Hitherto I have been busy ; I am now alone. I do not however invite you to come, till the rain shall cease ; because the present cold may be injurious to your health.

You will have the goodness to tell me frankly whether this short journey suits you, and when you will undertake it, that I may send my horses forward.

Adieu, my dear friend. I shall acknowledge this pleasure, which you wish to give me, and am &c.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXCIV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, July 5, 1766.

I RETURN thanks for the excellent fruits which your majesty has sent me.

The more my heart is penetrated by gratitude, for the gracious remembrance of your majesty,

majesty, the more, sire, am I mortified to see myself, by my situation, deprived of the power of obeying your commands.

My pains under the ribs are still the same, and will not suffer me to quit my great chair. I hope the fine weather will relieve my sufferings, and will enable me to gratify the respectful ardour I feel, to throw myself at your majesty's feet.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXCIV.

From the King.

July 16, 1766.

I SENT you a physician; but as I know you exercise his art but little, I send you some melons, my dear friend, which perhaps may be more to your taste. The physician pretends you have passed the season of bleeding, but that, by taking away a little blood, you would find yourself considerably eased. No one more interests himself in your preservation than I do; you should not therefore think it strange that I trouble myself with all that relates to the health, or can prolong the life of, my old and faithful friend.

Adieu, my dear general.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CXCVI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, July 16, 1766.

THE only relief I find is in your majesty's bounty. I mean to try bathing, in conformity to the prescription of your physician. I am regularly bled twice a year, on the 15th of April and the 15th of October. Indeed, I agree with the popular opinion, and prefer cherries and melons to cassia, fenna, and rhubarb.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXCVII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

September 26, 1766.

I SEND you some Hungarian wine, having heard in Silesia that you wished for some. At the same time I send you some grapes, which you will eat, if they be not injurious. I have also written to Constantinople for some balsam of Mecca, because I suspect yours is all used.

In fine, I wish to contribute to your preservation by every means in my power. Second my enterprize,

enterprise, my dear general, and take every care of your health, that I may enjoy my old and faithful friend as long as possible.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

LETTER CXCVIII.

From General Fouquet.

SIR E, Brandenburg, September 27, 1766.

WHAT cares does your majesty take for a man who is no longer good for any thing! Not satisfied with having sent me Hungarian wine and raisins, which contend with each other which is the most delicious, Asia must further supply its balsam.

How, sire, may I answer those infinite kindnesses with which your majesty loads me? My heart feels all the effusions of gratitude, but expression fails me.

Nothing, except the gracious attentions of your majesty, contributes to my preservation; and but for these, perhaps, I were now no more.

The balsam of Mecca, sire, will not fail to give me strength, and I will drink your Hungarian wine to fortify my stomach, while singing

the praise and glory of my incomparable benefactor.

How great, sire, is my grief, to find myself no longer able to prove, by my services, the zeal and inviolable devotion with which

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CXCIX.

From the King.

October 11, 1766.

I HAVE at length, my dear friend, received the balsam of Mecca, which my minister has brought me from Constantinople. I send it you, with a thousand wishes that it may do you all possible good; assuring you that no person is more interested in your welfare than your old friend,

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CC.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, October 17, 1766.

IT is not enough that your majesty should have rendered my life happy; you endeavour
to

to lengthen it, by the gracious care you take of my health. I return you thanks for the provision of balsam of Mecca, which you have just sent me. I shall take this excellent remedy as a bracer, and as a proof of your bounty.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CCI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

December 19, 1766.

I SEND you a service of porcelain, which I have long destined for you, but which the ovens would not permit to be finished sooner. I beg you to use it. Should any part be broken, the set may very easily be completed.

Continue in good health; live to give me pleasure; and enjoy every prosperity human nature can taste. Such are the wishes of the oldest and most faithful of your friends,

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, December 23, 1766.

IF there be any means of prolonging my life, I believe your majesty possesses the secret. Witness the joy I feel at the beautiful present of porcelain which I have just received.

Certain it is, sire, that, in the morning taking balsam of Mecca, a soup well breaded at noon in your beautiful turenes, and your old Hungarian wine at the dessert—according to all appearances, by such a continuation, we may yet travel far.

Imagine how lively is my gratitude, and what are the obligations I owe your majesty, for all your grace and favours. As I am at present of no use, sire, I can only employ my whole time in singing laud, honour, and glory to you*, and in praying for the prosperity of your august person.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

* Alluding to his church living, which he enjoyed as a canon of Magdeburg.

L E T T E R CCIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

February 18, 1767.

I SEND you a small Perigord pie. I wish it may be agreeable to you, and that your health may permit you to eat it, without inconvenience to yourself.

The people who come from Brandenburg say that you are very well ; but you never can be so well as I wish you, for no one interests himself so much in your preservation as your old and faithful friend,

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCIV.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, February 18, 1767.

I RETURN you thanks for your Perigord pie, which you were pleased to send me. I think it very good, and it certainly is sufficiently high flavoured ; but the way to put all things whatever to a proper use is to use them soberly. I depend with certainty that your majesty will act thus.

B b 3

With

With respect, sire, to my health, it is passable; thanks to the weather, which at present permits me occasionally to un-earth a badger, or a fox. I speak however so unintelligibly as not to make myself understood, and I stagger in my gait. There is but one thing of which I have no doubt, and that is of the inviolable attachment with which my heart will ever be devoted to you, to the last moment of my life.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, September 4, 1767.

I DARE flatter myself your journey is fortunately ended to your satisfaction; and I judge thus by the promotions which you have thought proper to make. The interest I feel, in what relates to colonel Luck, makes me augur that your majesty was satisfied with the regiment.

To crown my wishes, sire, may you ever continue in good health! And, after being satisfied with your journeys, and your reviews, I hope you will now unbend, by preparing a welcome for the prince of Orange, and will conclude the whole

whole by excellent and glorious nuptials. Permit me, sire, to present my compliments of congratulation. I return thanks to your majesty for the part I have had, during your absence, in the melons of Sans-Souci.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LETTER CCVI.

From the King.

September 7, 1767.

I AM returned, my dear friend, from Silesia, where I found your regiment very fine, and in very good order.

I am soon to bestow my niece in marriage. I would willingly invite you to the wedding, but that I know you prefer retirement to the hurry of courts.

I embrace you with all my heart.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCVII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

November 12, 1767.

I SEND you some balsam of Mecca, which is just arrived from Constantinople; with some grapes from my vine trees, and some bottles of the old Rhenish wine which you love. I wish the whole may be agreeable to you, and that you may regale on what I send.

Live, my dear general, for your friends; especially for me, who am the oldest of them all, and who will remain attached to you to the end of life.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCVIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, November 13, 1767.

I AM sensibly affected by the new marks of grace and favour which your majesty has testified for me, in the cares which you take for the preservation of my life.

I have reason to esteem myself the most happy
I of

of mortals; especially, fire, should heaven hereafter ratify those favours which you have shewn for me, during my residence on earth. This I dare hope for, and found my hopes on the friendship which I bear to the anointed of heaven, for whose prosperity and preservation I never cease offering up my prayers.

I am, and shall be, fire, to the last moment of life, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCIX.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

December 23, 1767.

I SHOULD think I had passed Christmas ill, were I not to send you some small mark of my remembrance. I have accordingly sent you a packet of my porcelain, that you may judge of the progress of my manufactory; and some truffles, which I have received from Turin. I wish they may both prove agreeable to you. I hope likewise you are in good health, and that you do not forget your old and faithful friend,

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, December 30, 1767.

TO be unfit for any thing, yet to enjoy the favour and benefits bestowed by the king my master, is a kind of satisfaction the worth of which can never be fully felt, except by men of my age.

You, sire, will judge of the joy which your gracious recollection, and the beautiful Christmas-box which you have been pleased to add, have excited in my heart.

The productions of your porcelain manufactory are of the most finished kind; and their beauty and taste surpass every thing to be met with of the sort. With respect to the truffles of Turin, according to my taste they are good for nothing; perhaps the truffles of your own country would meet with a similar fate, were they to make a similar journey.

I wish your majesty a good and prosperous year. May you continue in good health, and ever remain contented and happy!

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

January 7, 1768.

I SEND you the last duty which I have paid to a nephew, whom I much loved. I can assure you nothing is fictitious, and that his character and his knowledge were such as they are here described *.

I will send you no more Italian truffles. Your cook certainly does not know how to dress them, for every body here thought them excellent.

Adieu, my dear friend. I embrace you, and offer up a thousand prayers for your preservation.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCXII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, January 8, 1768.

I AM very sensibly affected by the death of prince Henry; although I had no knowledge of him, except of the beauty of his person.

* This refers to an eulogium on prince Henry of Prussia, in an extraordinary assembly of the Royal Academy of Sciences, on the 30th of December, 1767.

The care which you, sire, had taken of his education, the hopes you founded on the merits of this dear prince, and the eulogium you have written on him, are at once a testimony of the friendship you bore him, and the good qualities he possessed. In a word, he was your own work.

I was present at his funeral oration, in the cathedral church, where a hymn was sung to him, which made me weep bitterly.

The loss of this amiable prince may be said to be irreparable, if—be it spoken with your majesty's permission—you should not redouble your attention to the prince of Prussia, to whom is generally attributed the character of a worthy man, and all the sentiments that correspond to that character. This, sire, becomes a duty due to your own rank, to your family, to the state, and still more to the gratitude and obligation which the prince will be under to you.

I return your majesty thanks for the copy of the eulogium which you have done me the honour to send me, and which I esteem to be a perfect work.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T.

L E T T E R CCXIII.

o

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

April 26, 1768.

I HEAR from general Kleift that you are indisposed, and I send my physician to enquire into your health. You have a thousand good wishes from me, but wishing is all I can do. Were I a physician, I would cure you; were I a god, I would render you immortal, for so good men ought to be; but my power can do nothing more than pray for you.

If any thing here can render you service, you need but speak the word. Whatever depends upon me shall be done.

I wish to hear good and agreeable news from you. In the mean time I tenderly embrace you.

Adieu.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCXIV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, April 27, 1768.

THOUGH you are neither physician nor god, your grace and favour nevertheless are
produc-

productive of good effects ; especially of the joy which I feel, to hear that you are in good health ; a continuation of which I wish you for a long succession of years.

With respect to myself, I keep travelling on, and am gradually preparing for my long journey. The bark has just cured me of the fever. Nothing is wanting to restore me to perfect health but the power of making myself understood, of speaking, and of walking.

I recollect that, thirty years ago, I persuaded the diseased duke of Barby to employ the baths of Lauchstædt, near Halle ; to these he went on two crutches, and returned from them safe and sound, in four weeks, walking upright and as usual.

I should be much tempted to make the experiment, would your majesty but grant me permission. This however must not be, till your majesty have first passed through Brandenburg.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

LET.

L E T T E R CCXV.

From the King.

April 28, 1768.

I WAS glad to learn from your letter that you are recovering your health, and that it is your intention to try the waters of Lauchstædt. It depends absolutely on yourself to go thither, when you please, provided it be not at the time of the approaching reviews, when I shall go to Magdeburg; for I much wish to have the pleasure of seeing you as I pass through Brandenburg.

On which I pray God to take you into his holy keeping.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCXVI.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

October 13, 1768.

HERE is a small tribute which I present to you. Do not look at the sum; consider only the

the tender and faithful heart of your friend,
whose wish is to give you pleasure.

Take good care of yourself; live to the age
of Methuselah, and remain persuaded that I
shall love you, body and soul, to my last sigh.

FREDERIG.

L E T T E R CCXVII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, December 24, 1768.

I KNOW not what answer to return, for
all the favours and benefits which you heap upon
me. I have no expressions equal to the wish I
have to testify my gratitude to your majesty. I
dare however assure you, sire, that I should be
less affected by all the wealth you could possi-
bly bestow on me, than by the gracious terms in
which the present is made.

My heart is your pledge, sire, of the inviola-
ble attachment which, to the last moment of my
existence, I shall feel for your august person.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T-

LETTER CCXVIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND, December 22, 1768.

I HERE send you a trifling mark of recollection. It is customary for families to make presents at Christmas, and I treat you as one of the family; as well as a worthy and well tried knight, without fear and without reproach*, and my old and constant friend.

Take good care of your health, that I may preserve my good old friend as long as possible, and that I may yet often have the pleasure of personally assuring you of the whole extent of my tenderness and esteem.

FREDERIC.

LETTER CCXIX.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E, Brandenburg, December 24, 1768.

MY children were very far from feeling the same joy, at the Christmas-boxes they received,

* While Frederic II. was prince royal, among his other amusements, he formed an order of knighthood, and named it after the famous French chevalier de Bayard. General Fouquet was one of his knights. T.

as I did at the receipt of yours, accompanied as they were with the gracious recollection with which you are pleased to honour me. Why am I denied worthily to acknowledge so many favours? This I can only do in idea, and by prayers the most sincere which an affectionate heart can offer.

I no longer can make myself understood, and I lose my hearing. I am endeavouring to procure a small trumpet, at Berlin, to supply if possible this defect, similar to that which madame Rocoulle made use of, but cannot find any such.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXX.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

January 9, 1769.

I SEND you all the acoustic instruments I have been able to collect here, with remarks on their use. I wish they may aid your hearing, and ease your old age. Could I restore you to youth, I would; but that is a thing which surpasses my power.

I embrace you with all my heart.

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCXXI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE, Brandenburg, January 12, 1769.

WERE my recovery possible, I certainly might expect it from the goodness of your majesty, I most humbly return you thanks, sire, for the instruments which you have sent me, the two largest of which produced their effect. I will prove them to-morrow at church, where I will pray for the prosperity of my august benefactor.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXXII.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE, Brandenburg, September 5, 1769.

PERMIT me to mention the part I take in your happy return from Silesia, and in the remarkable visit which you have just received from his Imperial majesty at Neifs; an event that will ever remain memorable in your history. I wish,

C c 2

sire,

fire, the whole may have terminated to your majesty's satisfaction; and that this monarch, desirous of instruction, while he renders justice to your military talents, may not wish hereafter to profit by the lessons he has just received, after the example of the Russians, by practising them against his master.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXXIII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

September 7, 1769.

I AM much obliged to you for the part you take in the visit I have received.

The young emperor is a prince full of merit and ambition. He shewed every mark of friendship, equal to what any one of my nearest relations could have conceived for me.

He even told me he never intended to make use, either against me or my family, of any knowledge he might acquire among us.

He left me well satisfied; and has invited me next year to visit him, which I have promised to do, as it was but just I should.

Your regiment has again been found in fine
and

and excellent order. These troops are all in such good condition that nothing further can be desired for them, their preservation excepted. In a word, I have every reason to be satisfied with my journey.

I send you some fruits from my orchard ; for at our age, my dear friend, we can only cultivate our gardens.

I embrace you from the bottom of my heart, assuring you that I am wholly yours.

FREDERIC,

L E T T E R CCXXIV.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, September 8, 1769.

I AM delighted to learn, from your gracious letter, that you are satisfied with the visit of his Imperial majesty, and with your whole journey. I have nothing more to wish, except to know that you are always in good health, at hearing which nothing can equal the consolation I feel.

I return your majesty thanks for the excellent fruit which you have had the goodness to send me.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.
Cc 3

L E T T E R CCXXV.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

December 29, 1769.

I SEND you a Christmas gift of my porcelain manufactory. The progress of the artists is visible. I hope it will give you some pleasure, for this is what I mean; loving you as I do, and considering you as a true knight, and as the oldest of my friends.

I am, body and soul, wholly yours.

FREDÉRIC.

L E T T E R CCXXVI.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, December 29, 1769.

I RETURN your majesty thanks for the Christmas gift you have had the bounty to send me. The beauty of your porcelain continually increases; and I cannot but think it has attained the utmost degree of perfection, as well in excellence of design as in whiteness.

The thing which most affects me is the gracious recollection of your majesty; and that which I most ardently wish is your perfect health, and the preservation of your august person.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXXVII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

May 6, 1770—the day of
the battle of Prague.

I SEND you some old Hungarian wine, to give you pleasure, on the same day on which, thirty years ago, you were so cruelly wounded by our enemies.

I have had the gout, which has this time very ill treated me, by three successive fits in both my legs and knees; but I now think no more of it.

We proceed with our discipline marvellously well. I shall continue my old train as long as I can draw breath.

May your health be as good as I wish it to be; and may you remain persuaded of the infinite tenderness and esteem by which I am personally attached to you!

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCXXVIII.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, May 7, 1779,

I RETURN you thanks for the old Hungarian wine which you have had the goodness to send me, with which to celebrate the day of the battle of Prague. It has been a restorative to me, considering that all my faculties decline.

The recovery of your majesty contributes to mine. The painful experience you have had has taught you to remedy the evil by regimen.

I wish your health may be durable, and that you may continue to exercise your troops to the end of this century.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXXIX.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

December 24, 1770,

I SEND you a small token of friendship and remembrance, which I hope you will accept,

cept, as coming from your oldest and most faithful friend. I wish the new year may bring you back your voice, eye-sight, and hearing; that you may continue to love me, and that you may remain persuaded of my friendship and esteem,

Adieu,

FREDERIC.

L E T T E R CCXXX.

From General Fouquet.

SIRE,

Brandenburg, December 28, 1770;

I AM sensibly affected by the reiterated remembrance of your majesty; and my regret, at not being able worthily to acknowledge so many favours, is extreme. The only returns I can make consist in the most sincere good wishes, and assurances that your happiness is my sole consolation and relief under my infirmities, which continue to increase, and in which I have no reason to hope for any change.

I return thanks to your majesty, for the beautiful porcelain which you have had the goodness to send me, and which surpasses every thing of the kind I have ever seen.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXXXI.

From General Fouquet.

S I R E,

Brandenburg, September 23, 1771.

PERMIT me to declare the satisfaction I feel in your happy return from Silesia, wishing with all my heart to hear you are in perfect health, and that your majesty is satisfied with your journey.

I return you thanks, sire, for the excellent fruit which has been sent me, by your orders, during your absence.

I am, &c.

L. M. FOUQUET.

L E T T E R CCXXXII.

From the King.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I AM glad to find the fruits were agreeable to you; with this intention they were sent, and likewise because I imagined Brandenburg did not furnish much fruit this year.

I am returned from Silesia, where I found
much

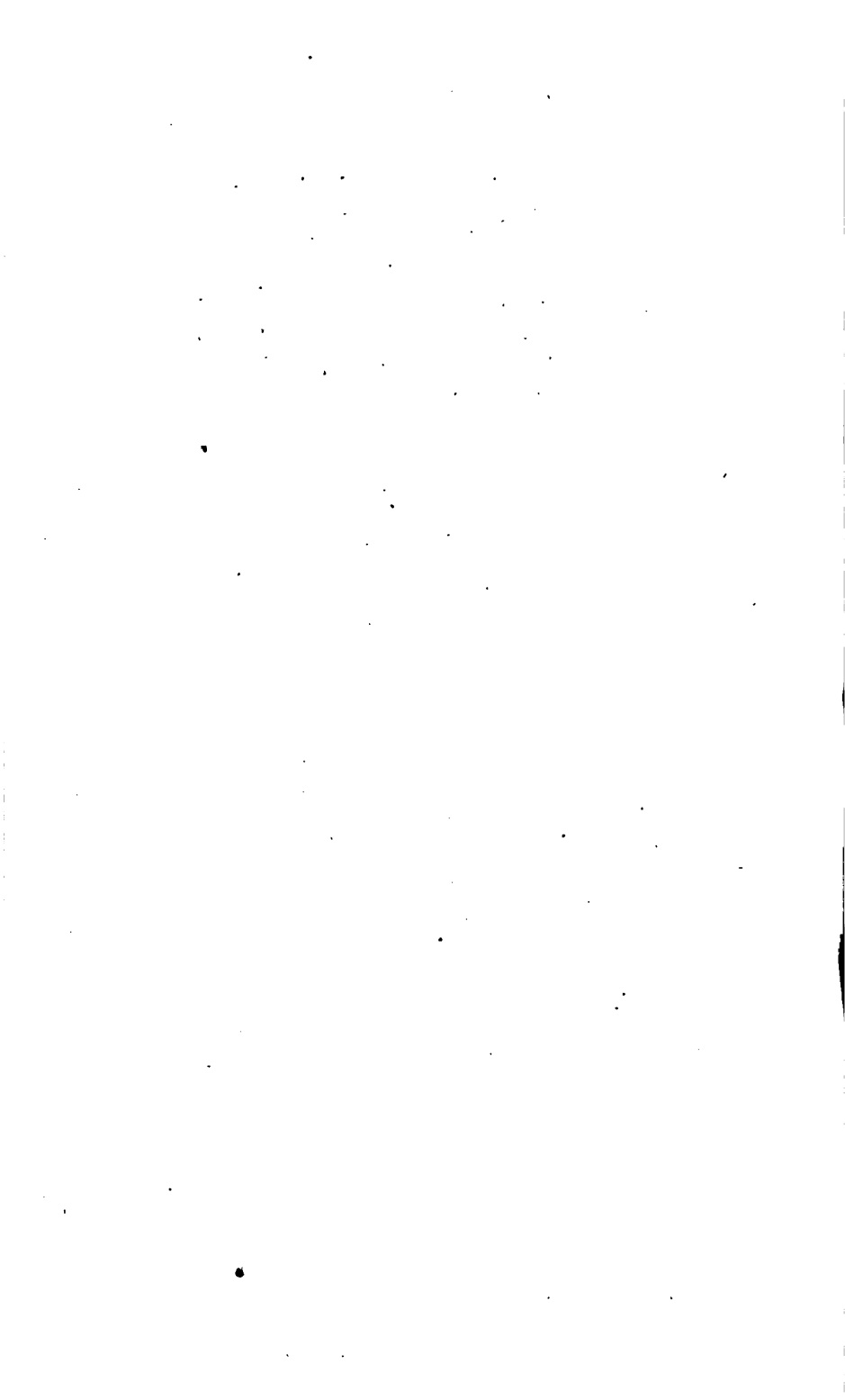
much work had been done, but where however still many things remain to do.

Your regiment begins to assume a most excellent appearance. But I will not speak to you on the subject, because, under your present infirmities, it would but lead to regret, and feelings which I wish not to excite.

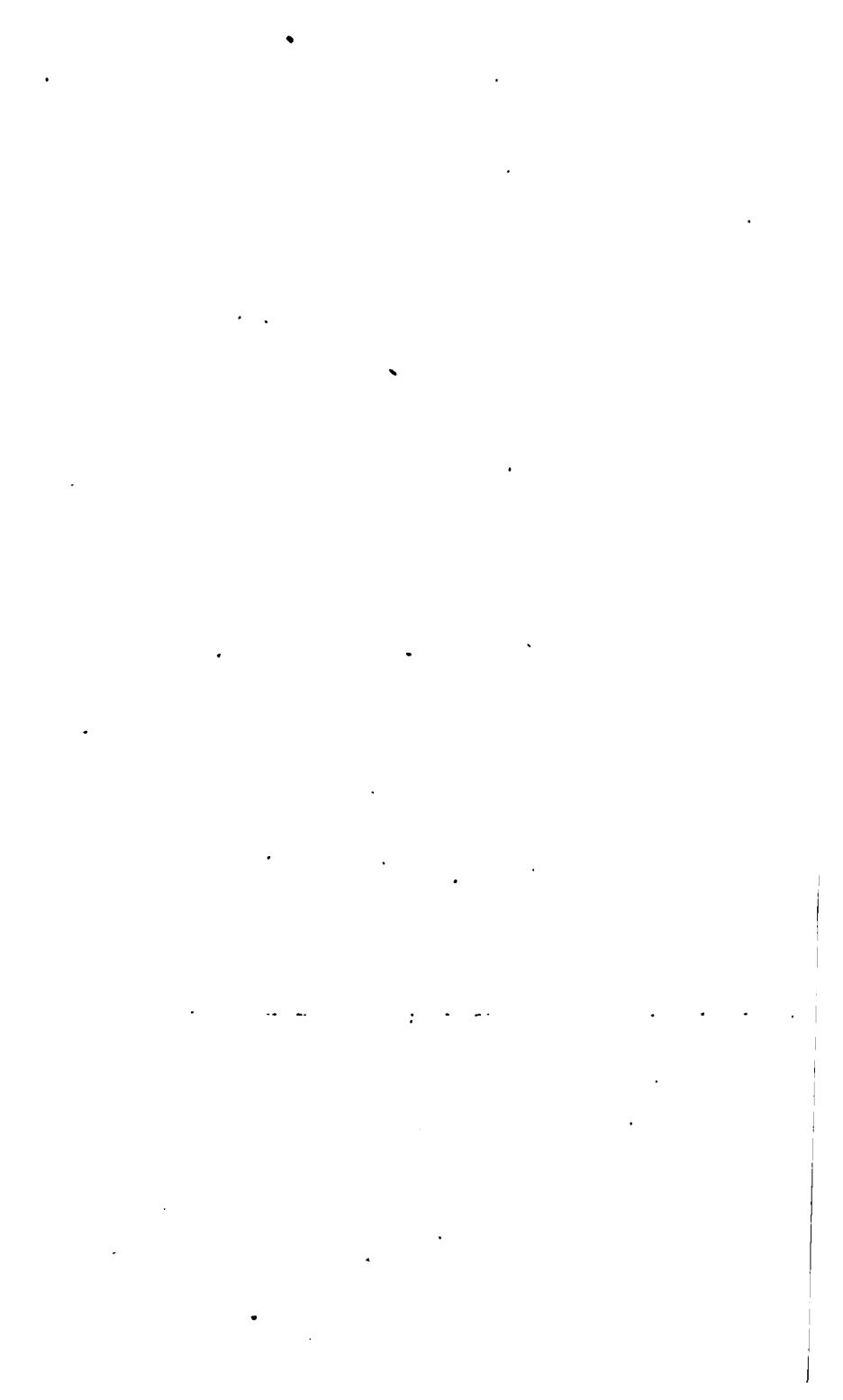
Adieu, my dear friend. Take good care of your health, love me ever, and be persuaded that, as I am the oldest, so am I likewise the most faithful of your friends.

FREDERIC.

*End of the Correspondence between FREDERIC II. and
General FOUQUET.*



AN
E S S A Y
ON
GERMAN LITERATURE;
ITS DEFECTS, THEIR CAUSES,
AND
THE MEANS BY WHICH THEY MAY
BE CORRECTED.



AN
E S S A Y
ON
GERMAN LITERATURE.

YOU are astonished, sir, to find I am not of your opinion; and that I do not applaud the progress which, according to you, is daily made in German literature. My love to our common country is not less than yours; but, for this very reason, I am most careful not to praise it, before praise shall be merited: that would but be to proclaim victory in the very heat and doubtful moment of battle. I wait till the enemy shall have fled the field, that the truth of my applause may be equal to its sincerity.

You know that, in the republic of letters, opinions are free. You consider objects under one point of view, I under another. Suffer me

me therefore to explain myself, that I may tell you what my opinion is ; and what are my ideas concerning literature, ancient and modern, as well with respect to languages, as to knowledge and taste.

I begin with Greece, which may be called the cradle of the fine arts. The Greeks spoke the most harmonious language that ever existed. Their first theologians, as well as their first historians, were poets ; and to poets were they indebted for the fortunate beauties of their language ; for they created numerous picturesque expressions, and taught their successors to express themselves with decency, politeness, and elegance.

From Athens I pass to Rome. Here I find a republic that long contended with its neighbours, combating for fame and empire. Every thing in this government was strength and vigour ; nor was it till after the Romans had subdued their rival, Carthage, that they acquired a taste for science. The great Scipio, the friend of Lelius and Polybius, was the first Roman who protected literature. Next came the Gracchi ; after them Antony, and Crassus, two orators that were famous in their age. At length the language, style, and eloquence of Rome attained full perfection, during the times of Cicero, Hortensius,

Hortensius, and those men of superior genius who honoured the Augustan age.

This short retrospect pictures to my mind the progress of letters. I am convinced that an author cannot write well, if the language he speaks be not formed, be not polished; and I perceive that men, in all countries, begin with what is necessary, afterward to add what is pleasing. The Roman republic laboured for its own formation; it fought for territory, which it cultivated; and when, after the Punic wars, it assumed a stable form, the love of the arts was introduced, and eloquence and the Latin tongue attained perfection. But I must not neglect to observe that, from the first Scipio to the consulship of Tully, there was a period of a hundred and sixty years.

Hence I conclude that the progress of all things is slow; and that the seed must be planted in the ground, the tree must take root, shoot up, extend its branches, and gain strength, before it can be productive of flowers and fruits. According to these rules will I proceed to examine German literature. That I may with justice appreciate what is our present situation, I erase prejudice from my mind; since truth alone ought to be my guide.

In Germany I find a half-barbarous language, which is divided into as many different dialects

as the empire contains provinces. Each circle is persuaded its own provincial speech is the best. There does not exist any collection that has acquired the sanction of the nation, and to which an appeal is made for a choice of words, and phrases, that constitute the purity of the language. The style written in Suabia is not intelligible at Hamburg; and that of Austria, in Saxony appears obscure. It is therefore physically impossible that an author, gifted with the most happy genius, should employ a language so unpolished, with requisite superiority. If Phidias be required to form the Venus of Gnida, let him be presented with a block of marble free from defect, and with the most excellent tools; he then may be successful. No tools, no artist.

Perhaps it will be objected that the republics of Greece were as different, in their idioms, as are the provinces of Germany; and it will be added that, even in this age, the country of each Italian author is known by his style, as well as the natives are by their pronunciation. These are truths of which I do not pretend to doubt; but they must not prevent us from attending to facts, such as they were in ancient Greece, and such as they are in modern Italy. Language is fixed by the writings of the most famous poets,

poets, orators, and historians. The public, by tacit convention, will adopt the turns, phrases, and metaphors, which their greatest authors have previously employed in their works; these expressions become common, and render language elegant: while they dignify they enrich.

Let us at present take a retrospect of our own country: here I listen to a jargon void of charms, which each utters according to his caprice; no choice of phraseology, the most proper and expressive words neglected, and the sense of the whole submerged in oceans of episode. I seek to discover our Homers, our Virgils, our Anacreons, our Horace, Demosthenes, Cicero, Thucydides, and Livy; but the research is vain, none such can I find. Be we therefore sincere, and confidentially confess that, hitherto, the belles lettres have not flourished in our soil. Germany has possessed philosophers, who may stand the equals of the ancients, nay even their superiors in certain respects; but of these I shall reserve the notice to a future part of this Essay.

With respect to the belles lettres, let us confess our indigence. All I am able to grant you, without descending to be the vile parasite of my countrymen, is to own that, in the inferior style of fables, we possess a Gellert, who may be ranked with Phædrus and Esop. The poems of Canitz

are supportable ; not for their diction, but because they feebly imitate Horace. Nor will I omit the Idylles of Gœfner, which have found partisans ; but I must be permitted to prefer the works of Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius.

When I review historians, I can cite none but the History of Germany, by professor Masco ; and this only as the least defective.

* Do you wish me to speak with due sincerity concerning the merit of our orators ? If so, I can mention none but the celebrated Quant, of Kœnigsberg, who has acquired the rare and singular talent of rendering his language harmonious : and, to our shame am I obliged to add, his merit has neither been acknowledged nor celebrated. How can it be expected men should exert themselves, to bring their studies to perfection, if fame be not their reward ? To the names I have cited I must join that of an anonymous writer, who has written poetry without rhyme. The cadence and harmony of his versification was the result of a mixture of the dactyle and the spondee : his language is comprehensive ; and my ear has been agreeably flattered by sonorous sounds, of which I did not think our language susceptible. Hence I venture to presume that this kind of versification is that which, perhaps, best suits our idiom ;
and

and that it is likewise preferable to rhyme. Probably a progress in it would be made, were sufficient industry exerted to attain perfection.

I will not mention the German theatre. Melpomene has been addressed by brutal lovers ; some on the stilts of bombast, and others groveling in the dust. All of them, rebellious to her laws, incapable of interesting or affecting, have vainly sacrificed at her altars. The lovers of Thalia have been more fortunate, for they have at least furnished us with one true and original comedy : I mean the *Postzug*. This piece is a picture of our manners, and our follies, which are well exposed by the poet on the stage : it is excellently written. Had Molière chosen the same subject, he could not have been more successful.

I am sorry I cannot give you a more splendid catalogue of our good productions. I do not accuse the nation, which is not destitute either of wit or genius ; but it has been retarded by causes that have prevented it from rising at the same time that neighbouring nations have risen. Let us go back to the revival of letters ; and compare the situation of Italy, France, and Germany, at the time of this revolution, which produced such great effects on the human understanding.

Italy, you know, was their nursery; the house of Est, the family of Medicis, and pope Leo X. contributed to their progress, by granting them protection. While Italy was thus busied, Germany, disturbed by her theologians, was divided into two factions; each of which signalized itself by its hatred for the other, its enthusiasm, and its fanaticism.

At this period, Francis I. thought proper to emulate the glory of Italy, by contributing to the restoration of literature. In vain did he weary himself with exertions to transplant letters into France; his labours were fruitless. The monarchy, exhausted by the ransom of its king, which ransom it had paid to Spain, was in a state of languor. The wars of the league, which followed the death of Francis I. prevented the citizens from applying themselves to the fine arts. Nor was it till toward the end of the reign of Louis XIII. when the wounds of civil war had been healed, under the administration of cardinal de Richelieu, in times which favoured the enterprize, that the French again resorted to the project of Francis I. The court encouraged men of learning and of wit; emulation was excited; and soon after, under the reign of Louis XIV. Paris yielded neither to Florence nor Rome.

What

What passed at this period in Germany? At the very time when Richelieu acquired immortal glory, by polishing his nation, the Germans were engaged in the war of thirty years. Our country was ravaged, and pillaged, by twenty different armies; which, now victorious, now defeated, carried desolation in their train. The fields were laid waste, and left uncultivated; the towns were almost without inhabitants. Scarcely had Germany leisure to breathe, after the peace of Westphalia. At one time she had to oppose the forces of the Ottoman empire, which then were formidable; and, at another, to resist the arms of France, which encroached upon Germany, to extend the dominion of the Gauls. Can it be supposed, when the Turks besieged Vienna, or when Melac plundered the Palatinate; when flames consumed the city and the citizen; when the tombs even of the dead were violated by the unbridled fury of the soldier, who drew the bodies of the electors from their graves, to acquire their wretched spoils—can it, I say, be believed, when distracted mothers fled from their ruined country, bearing their children, exhausted with hunger, in their arms, that sonnets and epigrams were then composed at Vienna and at Manheim? The muses require peace, security, and retirement; they fly the abodes of

trouble, where all order is subverted. Thus, it was not till after the war of the succession, that we began to repair the ills which had been brought upon us, by so many successive calamities. The little progress we have made must not be attributed to the want of understanding, or genius, in the nation ; we must blame a continuation of unfavourable circumstances, and those incessant wars which have ruined and impoverished us, as well in men as in money.

Let us not lose the clue of incidents ; let us attend to the conduct of our predecessors, and applaud the wisdom by which it has been directed : they acted precisely as was requisite, in their then situation. They began by applying themselves to rural œconomy, that they might restore land to its proper value ; which, for want of labourers, had remained uncultivated. They rebuilt their ruined abodes ; they encouraged the propagation of the species ; they applied themselves to clear lands that had run to waste ; and increasing population gave birth to industry. Luxury has even been introduced ; luxury, the scourge of small states, and the increase of circulation in great. In fine, travel, at present, from one end to the other of Germany, and you will every where find small towns become flourishing cities. Here is Munster ; farther off is Cassel ;

sel: now you come to Dresden; and presently to Gera. Pass through Franconia and you will meet with Würzburg and Nürnberg; approach the Rhine and you will pass through Fulda, and Frankfort on the Main, on your road to Mannheim, to Mentz, and to Bonn. Each of these cities present, to the surpris'd traveller, edifices which he did not imagine he should have found in the depths of the Hercynian forests. The manly activity of our countrymen has not, therefore, been merely confined to the reparation of losses, occasioned by past affliction, but has aspired more high; it has brought that to perfection which was but sketched by our ancestors.

Since these advantageous changes have been produced, we perceive the increase of plenty. The lower orders of the people do not languish in shameful degradation; and fathers now can afford to give their children instruction. These are the first fruits of the fortunate revolution which we have reason to expect; the shackles which oppressed the genius of our progenitors are broken, and destroyed; and we already discover the seeds of noble emulation, sprouting in all minds. We blush to perceive that, in certain respects, we are not the equals of our neighbours; we are arduous to recover, by indefatigable

gable labour, that time which, by disaster, we have lost; and, in general, the national taste is so determined, in the pursuit of whatever can dignify our country, that, with such propensities, it is almost certain the muses will introduce us, in our turn, to the temple of Fame.

Let us therefore examine what is further to be done, that we may root from our country those remains of barbarism which still are there; and that we may accelerate the very desirable progress, which our countrymen aspire so ardently to make. I have already said we must begin by the improvement of the language, Rough as it is at present, and wanting polish, this is a work that must be performed by able hands. Perspicuity is the first rule which those who write and speak ought to fix in their minds; for it is requisite that they should paint their thoughts, and by words express ideas. What are thoughts the most just, nervous, or brilliant, if they are not rendered intelligible? Many of our authors indulge themselves in a diffuse style; they heap parenthesis upon parenthesis; and you will very often not come to the verb, on which the sense of the whole phrase depends, till after having read an entire page. Nothing can be more detrimental to perspicuity, and the construction of language, than this practice,

tice. Such writers are not full, not flowing, but careless and indolent. The enigma of the Sphinx might sooner be divined than their meaning.

Another cause, which is as injurious to the progress of literature as the vices with which I reproach our language, and the style of our writers, is the defects of our education. The Germans have been accused of pedantry, because we have a multitude of trifling, dull commentators. To wash away this stain, we begin to neglect the study of the learned languages; and, that we may not become pedants, we are in danger of becoming superficial. Few of our literati can read the classical authors, Greek and Latin, without difficulty. Those who wish to form their ears to harmony, by the poetry of Homer, ought to be able to read Homer with ease, and without the aid of a dictionary. The same may be said of Demosthenes, Aristotle, Thucydides, and Plato. A familiar knowledge of the Latin writers is equally requisite. Our youth at present apply themselves but little, if at all, to Greek; and few of them are sufficiently acquainted with the Latin, to make an indifferent translation of the works of the great men who honoured the Augustan age. These however are the fruitful sources from which the

Italians, French, and English, our predecessors,

have drawn their knowledge; they have, to the best of their power, formed themselves according to these great models; their manner of thinking [they have adopted; and, while they have admired the sublime beauties which recur so incessantly in the works of the ancients, they have not neglected to remark their defects. Such remarks are necessary, and never ought we to abandon ourselves to blind adulation. These happy times, which the Italians, French, and English have enjoyed before us, begin at present sensibly to decline. The public has been satiated with the masterly works that have appeared; knowledge, by being more expanded, is held in less esteem. In fine, these nations, thinking themselves in possession of the same which their authors have acquired them, now slumber on their laurels. But I know not how it has happened that I have thus digressed, and wandered from my subject. Let us return to ourselves, and continue to examine what are the present defects of our education.

I think I remark that the small number of good and able teachers who are to be met with, is unequal to the wants of our seminaries; of which we have many, and which all require such provision. If the teacher be a pedant, his trifling mind will dwell on trifles, and neglect what

is

is essential. Diffusive, dull, and never ending, unmeaning in instruction, such masters weary the pupil, and inspire a disgust for study. Other professors consider their employment merely as a mercenary office; whether their scholars do, or do not, profit by what they are taught, is to them indifferent, provided their salaries be duly paid: and this evil is still increased, should they happen themselves to be destitute of knowledge. What indeed can those teach who nothing know? God forbid there should not be exceptions to the rule, and that able professors should not still be to be found in Germany! This I am far from denying. My only and ardent wish is that their number may be increased.

What might I not object to the vicious method which masters employ, in teaching their scholars grammar, logic, rhetoric, and other branches of education? How can they form the minds of their scholars, if they themselves be unable to discriminate between the good and the indifferent, the indifferent and the bad; if they confound the diffuse with the flowing, the trivial and the vulgar with the simple, negligent and defective prose with ease, and bombast with the sublime? Or what, if they do not carefully correct the themes of the students; and, while they correct, if they do not take
care

care not to discourage, but industriously to inculcate those rules which ought never to be forgotten, in composition? The same may be said of the propriety of metaphors. I remember, in my youth, to have read, in an epistle dedicated by professor Heineccius to a queen, the following beautiful phrase—“*Ihre majestät glänzen wie ein karbunkel am finger der jetzigen zeit!*” that is — “*Your majesty shines like a carbuncle on the finger of the present age!*” Can any thing be more ridiculous? Why a carbuncle? Has the present age a finger? Time indeed is figuratively depicted with wings, because time incessantly flies; with an hour-glass, because hours succeed each other; and is armed with a scythe, to signify that he mows down all beings like grass. When professors thus express themselves, in a style that is as mean as it is ridiculous, what can be expected from their scholars?

Let us descend to the lower classes of the universities, and examine them with equal impartiality. The defect which appears to me the most prominent is, that there is no general method by which to teach the sciences. Each professor forms a method of his own. My opinion is, that an excellent one ought to be formed, and that one universally introduced. But what is the present practice? A professor, in civil law for example, has

has some favourite authors, and authorities, on which he commentates; and to these he confines himself, without mentioning other authors that have written on civil law. He vaunts of the dignity of his art, that he may increase the value of his individual knowledge. If his lessons be obscure, he imagines he is himself an oracle. He declaims on the laws of Memphis, when the provincial precedents of Osnabruck are in question; and inculcates the laws of Minos to a bachelor of St. Gall.

The philosopher has his favourite system, to which he, in much the same manner, adheres. His scholars leave their college with their minds loaded with prejudice; they have examined but a small part of human opinions; they are not acquainted either with all their errors or all their absurdities.

On medicine my opinion is not yet decided, whether it be an art or be not; but I am perfectly persuaded that no man has the power to create a new stomach, new veins, or new intestines, when these essential parts of living existence are vitiated; and I seriously advise my friends, when ill, rather to send for a physician who has peopled more than one church-yard, than for a young pupil of Hoffmann, or of Boerhaave, who has not yet killed man or woman.

I have

I have no reproof for the teachers of geometry; this is the only science which has not produced sectaries, and which is founded on analysis, synthesis, and calculation. Mathematics is busied only concerning palpable truths; the method of teaching is therefore the same in all countries.

I shall, in like manner, be respectfully silent with regard to theology. This, it is said, is a divine science; and its holy vessels must not be touched by the hands of the profane.

I think myself at liberty to act with less circumspection relative to the professors of history; and to submit some small doubts to their examination. I venture to ask them whether the study of chronology be the most useful branch of history? Whether it be an unpardonable fault to mistake the year in which Belus died; the day on which the horse of Darius, by neighing, raised his master to the throne of Persia; and the hour in which the Golden Bull was published; or whether it be a matter of infinite importance that it was at six o'clock in the morning, or four in the afternoon? For myself, I am satisfied to know what are the contents of the Golden Bull; and that this bull was promulgated in the year 1356. I do not, by this, mean to plead for historians who are guilty of anachronisms; but I

should certainly be more indulgent to mistakes of that nature, than to errors of greater consequence; such as stating facts confusedly; not developing causes, and their effects, with perspicuity; neglecting method, and heavily dwelling on trifles, while they scarcely notice events the most essential.

My opinion is much the same concerning heraldry; nor do I think that a man of letters ought to be stoned to death, because he has been unable to unravel the genealogy of Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; or of Hildegarde, the wife or the mistress of Charlemagne. What is necessary to be known only should be taught; the rest should remain neglected.

My censures may perhaps be thought too severe. As nothing in this world is perfect, you will thence conclude that our language, our colleges, and our universities, must be imperfect likewise. You will add, that it is easy to criticise, difficult to perform; and that therefore, in order to do better, it is necessary those rules should be pointed out, which ought to be followed. This satisfaction, sir, I am disposed to give you. I am persuaded that, if other nations have approached perfection, the same means are open to us, and that we have only to employ those

means. I have long, in my moments of leisure, been accustomed to reflect on these subjects ; so that they are sufficiently present to my imagination, to enable me to commit them to paper, and submit them to your judgment. I make no pretension to infallibility.

Let us begin with the German language, which I accuse of being difficult to manage, not sufficiently sonorous, diffuse, and deficient in that abundance of metaphors and figures, which are so necessary to supply the writer with new turns, and impart elegance to polished speech. That we may discover the road we ought to travel, to arrive at this goal, let us examine the road which our neighbours have previously travelled, to attain the same purpose. In the time of Charlemagne, the Italians spoke a barbarous jargon ; a mixture of words introduced by the Huns and Lombards, with some Latin phrases, but such as would have been unintelligible to the ears of Cicero, or of Virgil. This dialect remained in the same state, during the barbarous ages that succeeded. At length, Dante appeared ; his poetry charmed his readers ; and the Italians began to imagine their language might become the successor of that of the conquerors of the world. A little before, and during the revival of letters, Petrarch, Ariosto, Sannazar, and cardinal

dinal Bembo flourished. It was the genius of these renowned writers that principally contributed to fix the Italian language. About the same time we find the academy de la Crusca was formed, which watched over the preservation and the purity of style.

I shall now revert to France; where I find that, at the court of Francis I. a jargon was spoken which at least was as discordant as our German still is; and, no offence to the admirers of Marot, Rabelais, and Montagne, the rude writings of these authors, deprived of grace, have only excited in me weariness and disgust. Toward the end of the reign of Henry IV. Malherbe appeared, who was the first poet France saw; or rather, to speak more accurately, was, as a versifier, less defective than his predecessors. To convince you that he had not brought his art to perfection, I need but call to your recollection the lines which you know exist in one of his odes:

*"Prends ta foudre, Louis, & va, comme un lion,
Donner le dernier coup à la dernière tête de la rebellion*."*

Who ever beheld a lion armed with thunder?
Fable has armed the master of the gods with a

* Seize thy thunder, Louis, and go, like a lion, to give the last blow to the last head of rebellion.

E e z

thunder-

thunderbolt, as it likewise has the eagle by which he is accompanied ; but thunder was never the attribute of the lion.

Let us however leave Malherbe, and his inaccurate metaphors, that we may proceed to Corneille, Racine, Boileau, Bossuet, Fléchier, Pascal, Fénelon, Bourfaul, and Vaugelas, the true fathers of the French language. By these its style has been formed, the use of words fixed, the phrases rendered harmonious, and energy and strength imparted to the obsolete, barbarous, and discordant jargon of their ancestors. The works of these men of superior genius were read with avidity ; they were imitated by those who had the gift of writing ; and their style and taste were diffused, and became common to the nation.

Suffer me here to pause a moment, only to remark that, in Greece and Italy, as well as in France, poets were the first who rendered their language flexible and harmonious ; and thus prepared it for that ease and facility which are so necessary in prose.

We will now transport ourselves to England, where we shall find a picture similar to that which I have sketched of Italy and France. England had been subjugated by the Romans, the Saxons, the Danes, and finally by William the Conqueror,
duke

duke of Normandy. From this confusion of the languages of their conquerors, with the additional jargon which still is spoken in the principality of Wales, the English tongue was formed. I have no need to inform you that, during these barbarous times, the English language was at least as rude as those which I have so lately mentioned. The revival of letters produced the same effects on all these nations. Europe was weary of the abject ignorance in which it had crawled during so many ages, and panted for knowledge. England, ever jealous of France, was emulous of her authors; and as, in order to write, a language was necessary, to the improvement of hers she began to pay attention. That the progress might be more rapid, she appropriated to herself, from the Latin, French, and Italian, all words of which she supposed herself in want. Her writers became famous; but they were unable to soften the sharp sounds of a language which offends the ears of foreigners. Other idioms lose by being translated; the English only is a gainer *. I recollect once having been
in

* The king knew nothing, or very little, of the English language; he must consequently have heard this opinion from others, and have taken it upon trust: it is therefore the less to be wondered at. Of hissing sounds it may be observed, they

in company with some men of literature, when it was asked what was the language in which the serpent addressed our first mother. In English, replied one of the erudite, for serpents hiss. Take this joke for as much as it is worth.

After having shewn how languages have been improved by other nations, you will no doubt judge that, should we employ the like means, we should, in like manner, be successful. We must therefore wait for great poets, and great orators, to render us this service, which we ought not to expect from philosophers; their attention must be directed to the destruction of error, and the discovery of new truths. Poets and orators are necessary, to enchant by their harmony, to move, and to persuade. But we cannot appoint the day on which genius shall take birth. Let us, however, examine whether we may not

are offensive; and are as numerous in the English as in any polished language, perhaps more so. But other languages are by no means so free from them as this, now common-place, remark would insinuate. They are, for instance, abundant in the French, to which their pronouns *ce, cette, celle, &c.* greatly contribute. Examples innumerable might be cited; accept the very words in which the king complains—“*Mais ils ne purent adoucir ces sons aigus,*” &c.

Accept the following likewise—“*Mais étoit ce à vous, étoit ce à sa fille de s'en charger ?*”—*Numa Pompilius, par M. de Florian, livre vi. p. 182, édition de Didot, en 8vo, 1786. T.*

make

make some progress, by the use of intermediate aid.

To render our style laconic, we ought to retrench every useless parenthesis; and, to acquire energy, we should translate those among the ancients who have expressed themselves with the greatest force and elegance. From the Greeks let us select Thucydides and Xenophon, not forgetting the Poetics of Aristotle. Let us pay particular attention to impart to Demosthenes his full vigour. From the Latins let us choose the Manuel of Epictetus, the thoughts of the emperor Marcus Aurelius, the Commentaries of Cæsar, the writings of Sallust and Tacitus, and the Art of Poetry by Horace. The French will furnish us with the Maxims of Rochefoucault, the Persian Letters, and the Spirit of Laws. All the books I have here proposed have, in general, been written in a sententious style, and will oblige their translators to avoid indolent expressions, and superfluous words. Our writers would thus employ their whole sagacity in contracting their phraseology, that their translations might possess the strength which has been so much admired in their originals. Nor must they neglect, while in quest of energy, an attention to perspicuity. That the latter may be preserved, the first duty of every writer is, that

he should never depart from grammatical rules ; and that he should place the verb, which should govern the sentence, so that there may be no ambiguity in the sense. Translations, thus performed, would remain as models, from the study of which our authors might form themselves. We then might hope we had followed the precept which Horace gives in his Art of Poetry—*Tot verba tot pondera.*

To soften the harsh sounds which are so frequent and so common to most of the words of our language, will be more difficult : the ear delights in vowels, and is shocked by a superabundance of consonants, because they are difficult to pronounce, and are not sonorous. We have likewise numerous active auxiliary verbs, the last syllables of which disagreeably expire in the pronunciation ; such as *sagen, geben, nebmen.* Add the letter *a* to these terminations, and make *sagena, gebena, nebmena*, and the sounds produced would flatter the ear. But I need not be told that, were the Emperor himself, with his eight electors, in a solemn diet of the Empire, to make a law that these words should be thus pronounced, the zealous adherents to the Teutonic tongue would laugh at them and their law, and would every where exclaim, in excellent Latin—*Cæsar non est super grammaticos* ; and the multitude,
who

who govern languages in all countries, would continue to pronounce *sagen* and *geben*, as before. The French have, in pronunciation, softened many words which shock the ear, and which occasioned the emperor Julian to say that the Gauls croaked like ravens. The following words at that time were pronounced *cro-jo-gent*, *voi-yai-gent*; and are now altered to *croyent*, *voyent*. If not pleasing, they are at least not disagreeable, at present; and in my opinion we might take the same liberty with certain words.

There is another vice which I ought not to forget; I mean low and trivial similes, selected from the jargon of the vulgar. Here follows an example of the manner in which a poet expressed himself, in his dedication to I know not what patron—" *Schiefs, groffer gönner, schifs deine Strahlen, arm dick, auf deinen knecht bernieder.*" —"Expand, great patron, expand thy rays, "thick as the arm, on thy servant."—What say you to rays as thick as the arm? Ought we not to have advised this poet to have learned to think, before he undertook to write? Let us not imitate paupers who wish to be thought wealthy; let us frankly acknowledge our poverty, that we may thereby be the more encouraged industriously to acquire the wealth of literature, the possession

possession of which will complete our national glory.

After having displayed the manner in which our language might be formed, let me entreat you to pay equal attention to the measures that might be taken to extend the sphere of our knowledge, and to increase the facility and usefulness of education, as well as to form the taste of youth.

First I should propose a more select choice of professors, to superintend the classes; and that these professors should be prescribed a more sage and judicious method of instruction, by which they should teach grammar, logic, and rhetoric. I shall add that the industrious scholars ought to be distinguished, and the indolent slightly disgraced.

The best treatise of logic, and at the same time the most efficacious, is, as I believe, that of M. Wolf. This therefore the professor ought to be obliged to teach; especially since the work of Batteux is not translated; nor, indeed, is it superior to the former.

With respect to rhetoric, Quintilian ought only to be taught. Whoever shall study Quintilian, and not attain eloquence, will never be an orator. The style of his work is clear, and
contains

contains every precept, and every rule. But it will be necessary that masters should carefully examine the themes of pupils, and explain the reasons why they correct the mistake; not neglecting to praise the passages in which they have been successful.

Were teachers to follow the method I propose, they would develop hidden merit, and cause the seed to spring up which nature has sown; they would improve the judgment of their scholars, by accustoming them not to decide without knowing why, and to draw just conclusions from their principles. Rhetoric would render the mind methodical; would teach them to arrange their ideas, and to add and connect them with each other, by transitions at once natural, imperceptible, and happy. They would learn to proportion the style to the subject; to use figurative language in proper places, as well to give variety as to scatter flowers over passages that are capable of embellishment. Nor would they employ mixed metaphors, which would but present confusion to the mind of the reader. Rhetoric would further teach them to select such arguments as might best be adapted to the auditors whom they mean to address. They would learn to insinuate themselves into the heart; to please, to move, to excite indignation

nation or compassion, and to persuade, and wrest universal applause from their hearers. How divine is that art which, by the use of speech alone, without the aid of strength or violence, can captivate all minds, reign over all hearts, and can incite, in an assembled multitude, all the passions of which men are susceptible!

Were good authors translated into our language, I should recommend reading of them, as the thing most necessary, most important. Thus, for example, nothing better could form logicians than the Commentary of Bayle on Comets, and on—*Compel them to come in**. Bayle, according to my feeble judgment, is the first of the logicians of Europe: he not only reasons with energy, and precision, but is peculiarly excellent in perceiving, at a glance, the whole which a proposition contains; its feeble and its strong side; how it may be maintained, and how those who attack it may be refuted. In his Dictionary he censures Ovid concerning the formation of the chaos; and has there written excellent articles on the Manicheans, on Epicurus, on Zoroaster, &c. These all merit to be read and studied; and the youth who should

* That is, on constraint in religious opinions. T.

appropriate to themselves the reasoning powers, and the strong penetration, of this great man, would obtain an inestimable advantage.

You will easily divine the authors I should recommend to those who would study éloquence. That they might learn to sacrifice to the Graces, I should wish them to read the great poets; Homer, Virgil, some select odes of Horace, and some of the poems of Anacreon: and, that they might acquire an impassioned taste for éloquence, I should put Demosthenes and Cicero into their hands, with a wish that they should be taught what are the different merits of these great orators. To the first nothing can be added; from the second nothing can be re-
 trrenched. Their works ought to be followed by the beautiful funeral orations of Boffuet and Fléchier, the Demosthenes and Cicero of France; and by the little Carême (Lent) of Massillon, which abounds in traits of the most sublime éloquence.

That they might learn the manner in which history ought to be written, I should wish them to read Livy, Sallust, and Tacitus; and that dignity of style, and beauty of narrative, should be pointed out to them: not neglecting to condemn the credulity with which Livy, at the end of each year, gives a list of miracles, each more
 4 ridiculous

ridiculous than its predecessor. Youth might then peruse the Universal History of Bossuet; and the Revolutions of the Romans, by the abbé de Vertot; to which might be added the Introduction to the History of Charles V. by Robertson.

These would be the means to form their taste, and teach them how to write. But, if the professor himself be in want of knowledge, he would satisfy himself with telling his pupils—"In this passage Demosthenes employed the grand oratorical argument; here, and in the greatest part of the discourse, he has profited by the *enthymeme*; this is the *apostrophe*, this the *pro-sopopæia*; now we come to the *metaphor*, and now to the *hyperbole*." All this is right. But ought not the master to explain the beauties of the author with more perspicuity? Should he pass over his defects (for the greatest orators have their defects) he will not have performed his duty. I strongly insist on these things, because I require that youth should leave their seminaries with clear ideas; and, not satisfied with having loaded the memory, that their judgments should be industriously formed, that they may learn to discriminate between the good and the bad; and, when they say this delights, this offends me, that they may be able to give good reasons

reasons why they approve, and why they reject.

To convince yourself of the little taste which has hitherto predominated in Germany, you need but repair to the public theatres. There you will see the abominable productions of Shakespeare*, translated into our language, performed; while the whole audience are dying with pleasure, as they listen to ridiculous farces, worthy of the savages of America. I call them thus, because they offend against all the rules of the theatre; rules not in themselves arbitrary; rules that you will find in the Poetics of Aristotle, in which the unities of time, place, and action, are prescribed, as the only means of rendering tragedies affecting: whereas, in these English plays, the time is protracted to the duration of years. Where is probability? Now we behold porters and grave-diggers, who appear and hold discourse worthy of themselves; and afterward enter princes and queens. How can so strange a mixture of grandeur and meanness, tragedy and farce, affect and please? Shakespeare may be pardoned such caprice, because the birth of the arts is never their point of perfection.

* Any vindication of Shakespeare would be ridiculous; let his abominable productions vindicate themselves. T.

But

But here have we a *Gatz von Berliebinger** who makes his appearance, a detestable imitation of these bad English productions; and the pit applauds, and enthusiastically demands a repetition of such disgusting dulness. Taste, I know, must not be disputed. Permit me however to observe, that those who are as much pleased by rope-dancers, and puppet-shows, as by the tragedies of Racine, only desire to kill time; they prefer that which speaks to their eyes to that which appeals to the understanding; and delight in shows more than in the passions of the heart. Let us return to our subject.

After having mentioned the lower classes, it is requisite I should act with equal frankness respecting our universities; and should propose such improvements as appear to be the most advantageous, and the most useful, to all who will give themselves the trouble maturely to reflect. It must not be imagined that the method pursued by the professors, to teach the sciences, is a thing of indifference. Should they be deficient in perspicuity, their labour will be lost. They have their course of lectures ready prepared, to which they add nothing. No one

* A historical play of great fame in Germany; written by M. Goethe, the celebrated author of the Sorrows of Werter. T.

enquires whether these lectures be well or ill written; and thus we see the little advantage which is derived from such studies. Few students depart from hearing them, with the knowledge they ought to have obtained. My opinion is that the rule which each professor ought to follow, in his public instructions, ought to be prescribed. The following is an outline of my meaning. We will throw geometry and theology on one side; because nothing can be added to the demonstration of the first, and because the popular opinions, with regard to the second, will not admit of being offended.

I come first to philosophy, and require that the course should begin by an exact definition of what is meant by philosophy; that afterward the most distant ages should be reverted to, and all the different opinions which men have maintained, according to the order of time in which they flourished, and taught their doctrines, should be related. Thus, for example, it will not be sufficient to say that the system of the Stoics taught, among other things, that the human soul was a part of the Deity. However sublime the idea may be, it is requisite the professor should remark it implies a contradiction. Because, were man a part of the Deity, he must possess infinite knowledge, and this he does not

possess: because, were God and man the same, it would prove that the English god is now at war with the god of the French and the Spaniards; that these various parts of the Deity are endeavouring to effect reciprocal destruction; and that, in fine, all the wickedness, all the crimes, committed by men would be divine acts. How many absurdities would not a doctrine so horrible admit? The consequence is, it is false.

In examining the system of Epicurus, the professor ought particularly to dwell on the impassibility, which that philosopher attributed to his gods, and which is contrary to the divine nature. He would not forget to insist on the absurdity of the declination of atoms; and on all which is repugnant to the accuracy, and connexion, of argument.

He would no doubt mention the Acataleptic sect, and the necessity in which men often are of suspending their judgment, on metaphysical subjects; in which analogy, and experience, are unable to afford the clue that may conduct us through the labyrinth.

He would afterward come to Galileo, and would give a clear abstract of his system. He would not fail to dwell on the absurdity of the Roman clergy, who insisted that the earth should

not turn round; who took infinite offence at the Antipodes; and who, however infallible they might think themselves, for once lost their cause, at the judgment seat of reason.

He would next attend to Copernicus, Tycho Brahe, and the system of the vortices. He would demonstrate, to his auditors, the impossibility of a plenum, which must oppose all motion; he would demonstrate, in despite of Descartes, that animals are not machines.

He would next come to an abridgment of the Newtonian system; of the vacuum, which must be admitted, without allowing it to be affirmed that it is a negation of existence; or that vacuity is a being of the nature of which we cannot obtain any precise idea. This would not prevent the professor from informing his hearers of the perfect agreement that exists between this system, as calculated by Newton, and the phenomena of nature; and that thus the moderns have been obliged to admit of weight, of gravity, and of the centripetal and centrifugal powers, as of occult properties in nature, which, till our times, had remained undiscovered.

It would then be the turn of Leibnitz, of the system of the monades, and of that of pre-established harmony. The professor would no doubt remark that, without unity, there cannot be

number; therefore, infecable, indivisible bodies must be admitted, for the formation of matter. He will further observe that, in idea, matter may be infinitely divided; but that, in practice, the primordial bodies, by being too minute, escape our senses; and that indestructable primordial parts must inevitably exist, which serve as the principles of the elements: for nothing can spring out of nothing; and nothing does not annihilate itself. The professor would represent the system of pre-established harmony as the romance of a man of genius; and would, no doubt, add that nature takes the shortest road to obtain her purpose. He would remark that beings must not be multiplied, without necessity.

Spinoza would then come under consideration, whom he would refute without difficulty, by the use of the same arguments which he employed against the Stoics. And, should he examine this system on the side on which it appears to deny the existence of the first Being, nothing would be more easy than to reduce it to dust: especially should he point out the destination of each thing, and the end for which it was formed. All things, even to the vegetation of a blade of grass, prove a Deity; and, if man enjoy a degree of intelligence, which he did not give himself, this must still more strongly shew that the Being, of whom
he

he holds all things, has a mind infinitely more profound, and more immense, than the mind bestowed on man.

Our professor will not leave Mallebranche entirely unnoticed. While developing the principles of this learned father of the oratory, he will shew that the consequences, which naturally result from them, would bring us back to the doctrine of the Stoics, and to the universal soul, of which all animated beings are but parts. If we see all things in God, if our sensations, our thoughts, our wishes, our will, emanate immediately from the intellectual operations of our organs, we must become no more than machines, put in motion by the hand of the Deity. God alone would remain, and man would disappear.

I flatter myself that, if our good professor possessed common sense, he would not forget the sage Locke; the only one of the metaphysicians who has sacrificed imagination at the shrine of reason; who followed experience as far as experience could lead; and who prudently stopped when forsaken by this guide.

If ethics be the question, the professor would briefly discourse on Socrates; would do justice to Marcus Aurelius; and would more amply discuss the Offices of Cicero, the best work on morality that ever has been or ever will be written.

To physicians I shall only say two words. Their great care ought to be, to accustom their pupils attentively to examine the symptoms of diseases, that their species may be perfectly understood. Symptoms are various: a rapid yet feeble pulse; a pulse strong, and violent; an intermitting pulse; a dry tongue; the look of the eyes; the nature of the perspiration; the secretions; that is, the urine and the fæces; from all which inductions might be drawn, on which to form a vague estimate, of the kind of marasmus which occasions the malady. Guided by this knowledge he must select proper remedies. The professor must carefully make his scholars observe the prodigious difference there is between temperaments, and the attention which this difference requires; he must teach them to pursue the same disease through various constitutions, and must principally insist on the necessity of observing how properly proportioned the same medicine ought to be, to the competency of the temperament of the patient. I dare not, nevertheless, presume that, with all these instructions, the young sons of Esculapius will work miracles: the only advantage to the public will be that, there will not be so many citizens killed, by the ignorance, or by the indolence, of physicians.

For

For brevity's sake, I shall omit botany, chymistry, and philosophic experiments, that I may encounter the formidable professor of law, who contemplates me with a rigorous brow. I shall address him thus : " This, sir, is no longer the age of words ; we now are come to things. Let me request, for the public benefit, that you would deign to infuse a little less pedantry, and a little more good sense, through the profound lessons which you imagine you inculcate. It were lost time, sir, to teach a code of nations, which would not be the code of individuals ; which the powerful would not respect, and from which the weak could derive no assistance. You endoctrinate your scholars in the laws of Minos, of Solon, of Lycurgus, of the twelve tables of Rome, and the Justinian code ; yet you say not a word, or very few words, concerning the laws, and customs, peculiar to our provinces. To appease you, we promise you to believe that your brain is composed of the quintessence of those of Cujas and Bartholo, mixed up together ; but deign to consider that nothing is more precious than time ; and time which is lost, in useless phraseology, is a waste ; for which, were any one accused before your tribunal, you would adjudge the punishment

F f 4

“ nishment of sequestration. Permit me there-
“ fore, sir, all erudite though you be, and
“ ignorant as I am, I say, encourage my
“ timidity so far as to suffer me to propose
“ a species of legal lectures, such as might
“ form an instructive course.

“ You would begin, sir, by proving the ne-
“ cessity of laws, and shew that no society can
“ exist without their aid. You would point
“ out the difference between civil and criminal
“ laws, and such as are only laws of conven-
“ tion. The first are useful for the security of
“ property, whether of inheritance, of portion,
“ of dowry, of contract, of purchase, or of sale ;
“ they explain the principles which serve as
“ rules to decide limits, as well as to render
“ the rights in litigation explicit. The intent
“ of criminal laws is rather to prevent than
“ punish crimes ; the pains inflicted ought to
“ be proportionate to the guilt, and the most
“ gentle should on every occasion be preferred
“ to the excess of rigor. Laws of convention
“ are those which government establish, to fa-
“ vour commerce and labour. The two first
“ species of laws are of a stable nature ; the
“ last is subject to changes, as well from in-
“ ternal as external causes, which may occasion
“ some to be abrogated, and others enacted.

“ This

“ This preamble, good Mr. Professor, being
 “ delivered with all necessary perspicuity, with-
 “ out consulting either Grotius or Puffendorff,
 “ you will afterward have the goodness to ana-
 “ lyze the laws of the country where you reside.
 “ You will be particularly careful not to inspire
 “ your pupils with the spirit of litigation. In-
 “ stead of teaching them to embroil, you will
 “ teach them to unravel; and you will take
 “ all possible care to infuse a spirit of justice,
 “ conviction, and precision into your lessons.
 “ To form your disciples to this method, from
 “ their youth, you will take due care to inspire
 “ them with a contempt for a litigious propen-
 “ sity, which sophisticates all that comes before
 “ it, and which seems to be an inexhaustible
 “ receptacle of subtilties, and chicanery.”

I now address myself to the professor of his-
 tory, and propose the learned and celebrated
 Thomafius to him as a model, whose excel-
 lence should he approach, he will gain a great
 degree of reputation; and should he equal this
 great man, fame will be his reward. He will
 begin his course of lectures, according to the
 order of time, with ancient history; with mo-
 dern he will conclude. He will omit no peo-
 ple, in this succession of ages; he will neither
 forget the Chinese, the Russians, Poland, nor
 the

the North ; as M. Bossuet has happened to do, whose work in other respects is highly estimable. Our professor will pay peculiar attention to the history of Germany ; as being, to Germans, that which is most interesting. He will however beware of entering into enquiries too minute, and of disturbing oblivion concerning origin, of which we want proofs, and which to us is an enquiry of little utility. He will glide over, without resting too long, on the ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth centuries : on the thirteenth he will become more diffuse ; for history then became more interesting.

In proportion as he advances, he will enter more circumstantially into his subject, because facts will become more connected with the history of our own times. He will particularly dwell on events which have been attended with considerable effects, rather than on those which, if I may venture so to express myself, expired without descendants. The professor will remark the origin of claims, customs, and laws ; and will shew on what occasions they were established, in the Empire. It will be requisite for him to notice the epocha when the imperial cities became free, and what their privileges were ; as well as how the Hanse, or the league of the Hansiatic cities, was formed ; how the
bishopsrics

bishoprics and abbeys became principalities; and will explain, as far as he is able, the manner in which the electors acquired the right of electing the emperors. Nor will the different forms under which justice has been administered, in this succession of ages, be omitted.

But the professor will exert his utmost discernment, and knowledge, on events that have happened since Charles V.; an epocha when every thing became interesting, and memorable. He will attentively unravel, to the best of his abilities, what were the causes of great events. Without respect to persons, he will praise the noble actions which have rendered men illustrious, and will blame the faults of those by whom faults have been committed. This was the age in which the religious troubles began; and the professor will treat that part of his subject like a philosopher; troubles that gave rise to the succeeding wars. Interests so great will be treated with the dignity they deserve.

At this period we perceive Sweden taking part against the emperor, and the professor will explain what induced Gustavus Adolphus to transport himself into Germany; and what were the reasons of France, for declaring in behalf of Sweden, and the protestant cause. But the professor will not repeat the old mistakes, which have

have been propagated by credulous historians ; he will not affirm Gustavus Adolphus was killed by a German prince, who served in his army ; because the thing is neither true, proved, nor probable.

The peace of Westphalia will require a more circumstantial detail, because that peace became the basis of the freedom of Germany, a law which confined imperial ambition within its just limits, and on which our present constitution is founded.

The professor will afterward relate what happened under the reigns of the emperors Leopold, Joseph I. and Charles VI. A field so vast will furnish sufficient exercise for his erudition, and his genius ; particularly should he neglect nothing essential.

He will not forget, after having narrated all the memorable facts of each age, to render an account of the received opinions of the men who most distinguished themselves, by their talents, their discoveries, and their works ; and will be careful not to omit mentioning foreigners, who were the cotemporaries of the Germans, on whom he may discourse.

I imagine that, after having thus examined the history of successive nations, it would be rendering service to the students were the materials

rials all to be collected, and laid before them, in one general view. In a work like this, chronological order would be necessary; that no confusion of times might result, and that they might be taught to place each important fact in its proper order; cotemporary by the side of cotemporary. And, that the memory might be the less loaded with dates, it would be good to fix the attention of those epochas when the most important revolutions happened: they are so many resting places for the memory: pictures which it easily retains, and which prevent a historical chaos so immense from being jumbled, in confusion, in the minds of youth.

A course of history, such as I propose, ought to be well digested, profoundly reflected on, and exempt from all minutia. It would neither be the *Theatrum Europæum*, nor the History of the Germans, by M. de Bunau, which the professor ought to consult: I should rather wish him to read the papers of Thomafius, if any of them be still to be found. What spectacle could be more interesting, what more instructive, what more necessary, to a young man, entering into life, than to take a retrospect of the successive vicissitudes, which have so changed the face of earth? Where will he better learn to estimate the nullity of human actions than

than by walking amid the ruins of kingdoms, and empires, the most vast ; or than by a mass of crimes like those which must pass in perspective before him ? How great will be his pleasure, occasionally to discover those virtuous and divine minds, which seem to petition, to claim a pardon, for the perversity of the human race ! These are models which he ought to imitate. He has seen a multitude of fortunate men, surrounded by parasites ; death strikes the Idol, Adulation flies, Truth appears, and the cries of the public, against the abominable crimes committed, instantly drown the voice of the flatterer :

I please myself with imagining the professor will have good sense enough to point out, to his disciples, the limits which distinguish a noble emulation from those of unbounded ambition ; and that he will lead them to reflect on the various passions, which have brought monarchies the most vast to destruction. He will prove, by a hundred examples, that good morality has ever been the true guardian of empires ; and that they have owed their corruption to the introduction of luxury, and the extravagant love of riches, which have at all times been the harbingers of their fall.

Should the professor follow the plan I propose,

pose, he will not satisfy himself with burthening the memory of his scholars with mere facts, but will labour to form their judgment, to correct their manner of thinking, and especially to inspire them with a love of virtue; which, if I mistake not, would be preferable to all the undigested learning, with which the minds of young people are loaded.

The general result of all which I have said, is that zealous and eager application ought to be paid, to the translation of all the classic authors, in ancient and modern languages, into our own tongue; by which we should procure the double advantage, of forming our idiom and of rendering knowledge more universal, by naturalizing all these good authors. They would enrich us with new ideas, with the beauties of their diction, their elegance, and their graces. How great would be the knowledge which the public would acquire! Of twenty-six millions of inhabitants, which are estimated to be the population of Germany, I do not believe that a hundred thousand among them well understand the Latin language; especially were the race of priests and monks to be subtracted; who scarcely understand Latin enough to be able indifferently to explain the rules of syntax. Thus are there a hundred and twenty-five millions

lions nine hundred thousand souls deprived of knowledge, because they cannot acquire it, in the vulgar tongue. What alteration more advantageous could happen to us, than that of rendering the knowledge of the ancients more general, more expansive? The country gentleman would make such a selection, for his reading, as would be convenient to him; and, while amusing himself, would gain instruction; the heavy citizen would become less boorish; the idle would find a source of employment for time, by which they are wearied; a taste for the belles lettres would become general, and would extend amenity, gentleness, and the graces through society; while it would afford inexhaustible materials for conversation. From this collision of wits a nicety of *taste*, of discernment, would result, and of that good taste which is so prompt to seize the beautiful, reject mediocrity, and condemn what is contemptible. The public, thus become enlightened, would oblige new authors to be more assiduous, more careful, over their works; and not to publish them, till they should first have been well corrected, and polished.

The progress which I intimate, is not the child of my imagination; it is that of all polished people; nor is there any other. The
more

more a love of letters should prevail, the greater distinctions might those who cultivate them with the most superiority expect; and the example of such would animate others. Germany produces men laborious in research, men of genius, philosophers, and whatever can be desired: a Prometheus only is wanting, who should steal the celestial fire, by which it were to be wished they were animated.

The soil which has produced the famous Des Vignes, chancellor of the unfortunate emperor Frederic II; the country in which those were born who wrote the letters of obscure men, greatly superior to their age, those which are the models of Rabelais; the soil which produced the famous Erasmus, whose *Eulogium on Folly* abounds in wit, and which would still more abound, were some dull monkish jokes retrenched, which partake of the bad taste of the times; the country which gave birth to Melanchthon, as sage as he was erudite—I say, the soil which has produced these great men is not exhausted, but will give birth to many others.

How many other great men indeed might I not add? I boldly enumerate, among the Germans, Copernicus, who rectified the planetary system, by his calculations, and proved what

Ptolemy * ventured to advance, some thousands of years before. And to him I may add a monk, who, in another part of Germany, discovered, by chemical operations, the astonishing effects of gunpowder : while a third invented the art of printing, that happy art which perpetuates good books, and enables the world to acquire knowledge at little expence. Not to omit Otto Geric, an inventive genius, to whom we are indebted for the air-pump ; and certainly not to forget the celebrated Leibnitz, with whose name Europe has resounded, and who, though his imagination led him into some visionary systems, must be allowed, even when wandering in uncertainty, to wander like a man of sublime genius. I might swell the list with the names of Thomasius, Bilfinger, Haller, and many others ; but the present times impose silence. The praises of some would humble the vanity of others.

I foresee it will perhaps be objected to me that, during the wars of Italy, Picus Mirandula was seen to flourish. This I allow, but he was only a man of learning. It will be added that, while Cromwell subverted the laws of his country, and caused his king to be be-

* This I have no doubt is an error of the press ; the king certainly wrote Pythagoras. T.

headed on a scaffold, Toland * published his *Leviathan*; and that, soon after, Milton suffered his *Paradise Lost* to see the light; that, during the reign of queen Elizabeth, chancellor Bacon had already enlightened Europe, and had become the oracle of philosophy, by indicating discoveries then to be made, and the path that was to be followed for the attainment of this end; that during the wars of Louis XIV. good authors of every kind increased the fame of France. And why, it will be asked, did the wars of Germany prove more fatal to literature than the wars of our neighbours? This question I can easily answer. Letters in Italy did not really flourish, except under the protection of Laurent de Medicis, of pope Leo X. and of the house of Este. There were, in these times, some occasional wars; but none that were destructive: and Italy, emulous of the glory which would result to her from the revival of the fine arts, encouraged their revival, as far as her powers would permit.

The unrelenting politics of the fanaticism of Cromwell, in England, attacked only the throne: cruel toward his king, he governed the nation

* The king was little acquainted with English authors, except through the medium of French writers.—Read Hobbs. T.

wisely. Thus the commerce of that island was never more flourishing, than under his protectorship. The Behemoth could not be regarded as any thing more than the libel of a faction. The Paradise Lost, no doubt, was of greater worth. Milton was a man of strong imagination, who had conceived the subject of his poem from one of the religious farces which, in his time, continued to be acted in Italy. And it ought to be particularly remarked that England was then opulent, and at peace. Chancellor Bacon, who became illustrious under Elizabeth, lived in a polished court; he had the penetrating eyes of Jove's eagle, to scrutinize the sciences; and the wisdom of Minerva, to reduce them to order. The genius of Bacon resembled those phenomena, those men of genius, that only appear at great distances from each other; and who do as much honour to the age in which they live, as to the human mind.

The administration of cardinal de Richelieu had, in France, been preparatory to the fine age of Louis XIV. Knowledge began to be expanded. The war of the Fronde was but the sport of boys. Louis XIV., covetous of every kind of fame, was desirous that his nation should be the first in literature and good taste, as well as in power, in conquest, in commerce, and in policy.

policy. He carried his victorious arms into foreign lands. France prided herself in the success of her monarch, without feeling the ravages of war. It was therefore natural that the muses, who delight in repose and abundance, should take up their abode in his kingdom.

But you ought, sir, particularly to remark that, in Italy, England and France, the first men of letters, and their successors, wrote in their own language. The public eagerly read their works, and knowledge was generally spread through the whole nation. With us it was very different: our religious wars supplied us with some disputants, who, obscurely discussing unintelligible subjects, supported and opposed the very same arguments, and intermingled sophism and abuse.

Our first men of learning were, as in other countries, men who stored their memories with fact after fact, and were pedants without taste; such as Lipsius, Freinshemius, Gronovius, and Grævius; the dull restorers of some few obscure phrases, which they discovered in ancient manuscripts. Their labours, to a certain point, might be useful; but men ought not to apply themselves wholly to minute trifles, which certainly are of little importance.

The thing most to be lamented was that the

pedantic vanity of these gentlemen aspired to the applause of all Europe. In part to make a parade of their excellent Latin, and in part to be admired by foreign pedants, they wrote only in that language; so that their works were lost almost to the whole of Germany. Two inconveniences resulted from this; first, the German language, not being cultivated, remained loaded with its ancient rust; and, again, the majority of the nation, not understanding Latin, could not gain instruction, because they were unacquainted with the dead languages, but continued to grovel in the lowest ignorance.

These are truths, to which no answer can be given. Let the literati occasionally remember that the sciences are the food of the mind; the memory, receiving them, may be compared to the stomach: but a vitiated habit is the consequence, if the digestive faculty of judgment be not employed. If knowledge be wealth, it is wealth that ought not to be buried, but profited by, and generally dispersed, among the mass of citizens, in a known tongue.

Men of letters have but lately been daring enough to write in their native language, and not to blush at being Germans. You know it is not long since the first dictionary of the German language was published. I am ashamed to
remem-

remember that a work so useful is not a hundred years older than I myself am. However, we begin to perceive that a change is effecting in the minds of men; national fame begins to be heard; we are ambitious of being the equals of our neighbours, and are desirous to form roads, for ourselves, to the Parnassian mount, and the temple of fame. People of nice discernment have already begun to remark this effect. Let classical works, ancient and modern, be translated into the German language. If we wish money should circulate at home, let us distribute it among the public: let us render the wealth of the sciences common, wealth that was formerly so rare.

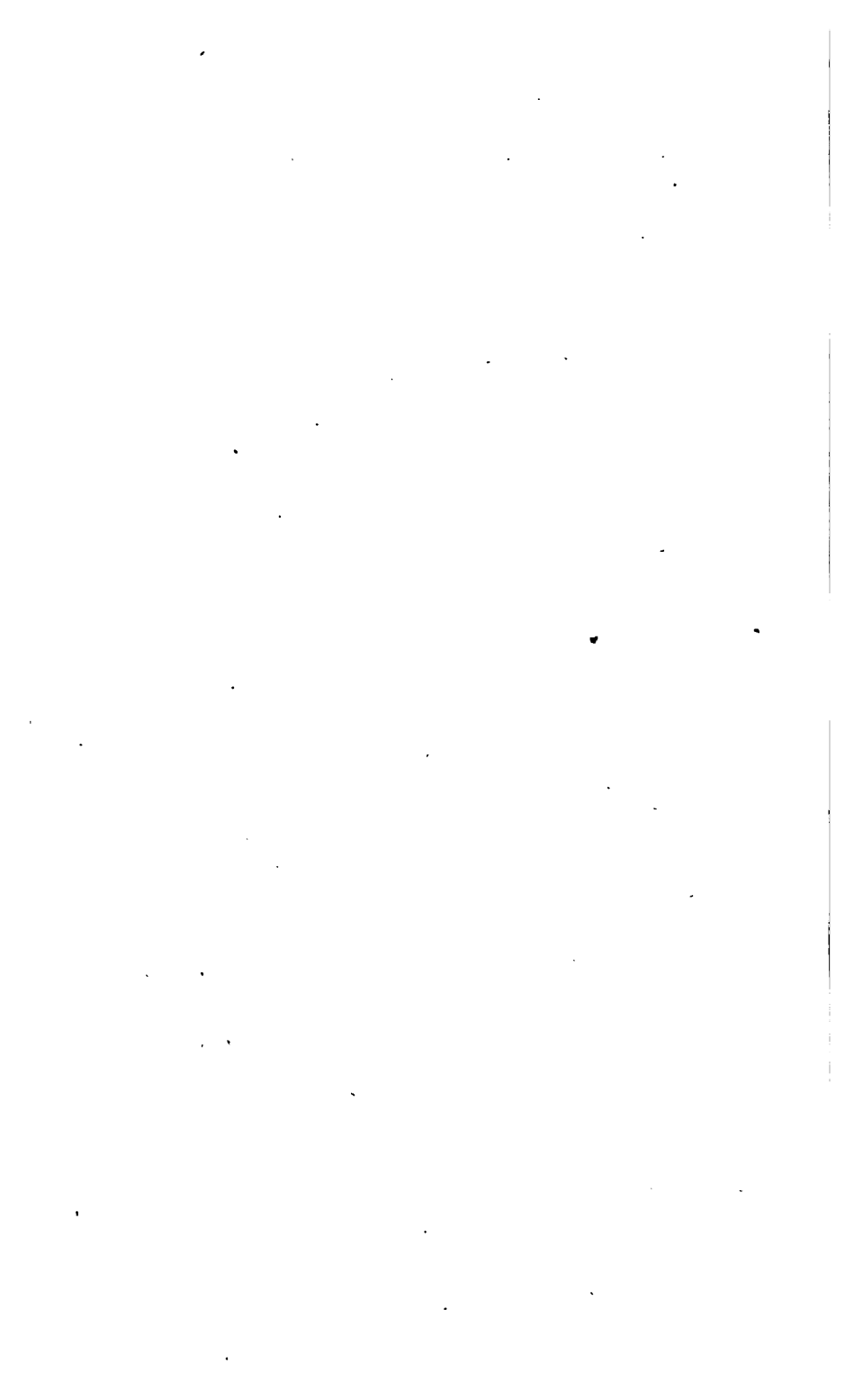
To omit nothing which has retarded our progress, I shall notice how little the German is spoken in most of the courts of our princes. Under the reign of the emperor Joseph I. Italian was the language of the court; Spanish prevailed under Charles VI.; and, during the government of Francis I. who was a native of Lorraine, French was spoken more familiarly, at his court, than German. It was the same in the electoral courts. And what could be the reason? I repeat, sir, because the Spanish, Italian, and French, were languages formed, and fixed; ours was not.

But let us console ourselves ; the same thing happened in France, under Francis I. Charles IX. and Henry III. Spanish and Italian were more frequently spoken, in good company, than French ; the national language was not in fashion till it became polished, perspicacious, and elegant ; nor till an infinity of classical works had embellished it by their picturesque expressions, and at the same time fixed its grammatical progress. Under the reign of Louis XIV. the French became common over all Europe ; this partly originated in the love borne to the authors who then flourished ; and partly in the excellent translations from the ancients which then were made. That language is now become the passport, which introduces the traveller into all houses, and all cities. From Lisbon to Petersburg, from Stockholm to Naples, if you can but speak French, you will every where be understood. By the acquirement of this tongue, only, a number of other languages may be neglected, which it would else be necessary to know ; and our memory must then be burthened with words, instead of being abundant in things ; which latter is much the most preferable.

Such, sir, are the different shackles which have prevented us from proceeding with rapidity equal to our neighbours. But it has always
I happened

happened that those who come last have in some manner surpassed their predecessors; and this may more quickly be the case with us than is imagined, should sovereigns acquire a taste for literature, and should they encourage those who apply themselves to it, by praising and rewarding the authors who have been most successful. Give us but princes like the Medicis, and we shall see genius bloom. An Augustus will produce a Virgil. We shall have our classic authors; each man, to profit by them, will wish to read. Our neighbours will study the German, and it will be spoken with delight in the courts of princes. Our language, polished and improved, may happen, in favour of our good writers, to extend over all Europe.

These summer days of our literature are not yet come; but they approach; I foretell they will appear. I shall not see them; of the hope of this I am deprived by age. I resemble Moses; I have a sight of the promised land, but into it must not enter. Forgive me the comparison. I leave Moses to be what he is, and do not desire to be brought in parallel with him. And, with respect to our literary summer, for this we must wait: it will, at least, be of more worth than the naked and arid rocks of the sterile Idumea.



A
MORAL DIALOGUE,
FOR THE USE OF THE
YOUNG NOBILITY.



▲

M O R A L D I A L O G U E.

Question.

WHAT is virtue?

Answer.

A happy propensity of mind, which inclines us to fulfil the duties of society, to our own advantage.

Question.

In what do the duties of society consist?

Answer.

In submission; in the gratitude we owe our fathers, for the attentions they have paid to our education ; in assisting them with all our power; in rendering their old age, by our tender affection, services similar to those which they rendered us during our feeble infancy.

Toward our brothers, nature, and the ties of blood, remind us of the good faith and attachment we owe ; as being derived from the same origin, and united to them by the most indissoluble connections of humanity.

In

In the character of father, we are obliged to nurture our children with all possible care ; particularly to watch over their education, and their morals ; because virtue and wisdom are a thousand times more precious than all the accumulated treasures which might be left them, as their heritage.

In the quality of citizen, it is our duty to respect society, in general ; to consider all men as of the same species ; to regard them as companions, as brothers, whom nature has bestowed on us ; and “to do unto them as we wish they should do unto us.”

As members of one common country, we ought to exert our whole abilities, to be useful to that country ; we ought to love it sincerely, because it is our general mother ; and, should its prosperity so require, to it we ought to sacrifice possessions and life.

Question.

These are very excellent principles. We have now to examine how you will reconcile your duty toward society to your own interest. Do not the respect and filial submission, in which you hold your father, lay a disagreeable constraint upon you, when you are obliged to cede to his will ?

Answer.

Answer.

There is no doubt but that, by obeying, I sometimes am obliged to commit violence on myself. But which way can I be sufficiently grateful toward the persons who gave me life? Does not my interest require me to encourage, by my example, my children to imitate me, and to pay the same submission to my will?

Question.

Nothing can be objected to your reason, consequently nothing I shall object. But how will you preserve unity with your brothers and sisters, if, as it often happens, family affairs, or discussions concerning legacies, should occasion disputes?

Answer.

Do you then suppose the ties of blood to be so feeble as not to be superior to temporary interest? If our father leave a will, to that last will it is our duty to submit. If he die intestate, the laws will determine our difference. Nothing therefore can be of any important prejudice to me. And even should I be possessed by the fury of envy, and the rage of chicanery, must I not be sensible that the family inheritance would be wasted in law? I would therefore come to an amical agreement, and not suffer discord to ruin our family.

Question.

Question.

I wish to believe you are sufficiently prudent not, through your own error, to give place to any family contention : but wrong may be done by your brothers and sisters ; they may act improperly toward you ; may envy you, speak of you in indecent language, cause you vexation, and may even endeavour to effect your ruin. How will you then reconcile the severity of duty with your own interest and felicity ?

Answer.

After having calmed the first emotions of indignation, which their conduct may have inspired, it should be my glory rather to suffer offence than to offend. I would afterward speak to them ; would tell them that, respectful of the blood which my father and mother had transmitted to them, I found it impossible for me to act against them as against declared enemies ; but that I would take precautions to prevent them from doing me injuries. This generous proceeding might bring them back to reason ; and, should it not, I should still have the consolation of having acted irreproachably. Proceeding thus, I could not but acquire the applause of the wise ; and this would to me be sufficient recompence.

Question.

Question.

What end would such generosity answer ?

Answer.

It would preserve, what I hold most precious on earth, my reputation, on which I found all my happiness, unspotted.

Question.

What happiness can arise from the opinion, which men may entertain of you ?

Answer.

Not upon the opinions of others do I found my happiness, but on the ineffable satisfaction which I feel, at being conscious that my actions are worthy of a reasonable, humane, and beneficent being.

Question.

You have said that, should you have children, you would be more careful to render them virtuous than wealthy. Why do you pay so little attention to their worldly wealth ?

Answer.

Because wealth, in itself, is of no value ; and only becomes so by the manner in which it is employed. ' Now, if I cultivate the talents of my children, if I form their minds and their morals, their own personal merit will make their fortune. Whereas, should I neglect to watch over their education, be the wealth I might leave them

what it would, they would dissipate it very quickly. Beside I wish to see my children's character, their hearts, their talents, and their knowledge esteemed, and not their riches.

Question.

This must necessarily be useful to society; but, with respect to yourself, of what advantage will it be to you?

Answer..

Of very great. Because my well-tutored children would become the consolation of my old age; they would not dishonour my name, nor my ancestors, by their ill conduct; and, being prudent and rational, by the aid of their talents, the riches I might leave them would be sufficient for their honourable subsistence.

Question.

You do not then imagine that noble birth, and illustrious ancestors, afford any dispensation for the want of personal merit? •

Answer.

Far to the contrary: these but excite emulation. Nothing can be more shameful than to degrade a noble race, by such conduct. The splendour of ancestry, far from illustrating its successors, would but display their infamy.

Question.

I must request some explanations from you,
with

with regard to what you have said on our duties to society. You have told me you must do to others as you wish others should do to you. This is vague. I wish you to be more explicit, on what you understand by these words.

Answer.

In this there will be no difficulty. I need but state what gives me pleasure, and what pain.

1. I should think myself injured, were any one to seize on my possessions; consequently, no one ought to be dispossessed by me.

2. My affliction would be excessive, were any one to debauch my wife. I therefore ought not to defile the bed of another.

3. I detest those who break their word to me; or who perjure themselves. It results that I ought faithfully to keep my promise, and observe my oath.

4. I abhor those who defame me; and, for this reason, ought not to calumniate any person.

5. No individual has a right to take my life; nor can I then have a right to take the life of the meanest individual.

6. Those who act ungratefully toward me excite my indignation. How therefore can I act ungratefully toward my benefactors?

7. If I love to live undisturbed, I consequently

ought not to disturb the tranquillity of my neighbour.

8. If I wish to be aided in time of need, I will not refuse aid to those who ask it of me ; because I am sensible of the pleasure which a benevolent mind feels, in acts of benevolence. The affectionate heart compassionates the woes of humanity, and defends, assists, and protects the wretched.

Question.

I perceive you do all these things for society ; but what do you thereby gain for yourself ?

Answer.

The sweet satisfaction of perceiving myself to be what I wish to be ; worthy of friends, worthy the esteem of my fellow-citizens, and worthy the applause of my own heart.

Question.

By thus behaving, must not you sacrifice all your passions to your reason ?

Answer.

I should not give them the rein ; yet, while restraining them, I should act for my own good ; for the support of the laws, which protect the feeble against the assaults of the strong ; for the maintenance of my reputation ; and, further, to avoid those punishments which the laws inflict on transgressors.

Question.

Question.

The laws, it is true, punish public crimes ; but how many bad actions, concealed in darkness, are hidden from the sharp sword of justice ! And why should not you become one of the happy guilty, who enjoy the fruit of their offences, under the shade of impunity ? Should therefore a clandestine opportunity of enriching yourself offer, would you suffer it to escape ?

Answer.

If by honourable means I could acquire wealth, such undoubtedly I should not neglect ; but, were the means dishonourable, I should renounce them without hesitation.

Question.

Why ?

Answer.

Because there is nothing so secret which does not come to light. Time, soon or late, discovers the truth. Ill-acquired riches I should tremble while I possessed, and should pass my life in the cruel expectation of the moment which would for ever dishonour me to the world, by disclosing my turpitude.

Question.

Yet the morality of the great is very relaxed ; and, were we to scrutinize by what claims each

man is possessed of wealth, how many acts of injustice, of fraud, and ill faith, should we not discover ! Would not such examples encourage you to imitation ?

Answer.

They would make me groan for the perversity of mankind. But, as neither deformity nor blindness inspires me with a wish to be deformed, or blind ; I imagine, in like manner, it is unworthy of the virtuous to degrade themselves, and to take example by vice.

Question.

There are however concealed crimes.

Answer.

I own it ; but the criminals are not happy : they are tormented, as I have said, by the fear of being discovered, and the most violent remorse. They feel they act the hypocrite, and that they cover their dishonesty with the mask of virtue. Their heart rejects the false esteem which they enjoy ; and they secretly condemn themselves to suffer all the contempt they deserve.

Question.

Whether, were you in such a situation, you would make such reflections, remains to be enquired.

Answer.

Answer.

Could I stifle the voice of conscience, and of avenging remorse? Conscience is as a mirror; when our passions are calm, it represents all our deformities. In this mirror I have seen myself innocent, I now see myself guilty! Alas! How horrible must I appear in my own eyes!—No, I never will wilfully thus expose myself to such humiliation, such grief, such torment.

Question.

There are however concussions, and rapine, which war seems to authorise.

Answer.

War is the trade of men of honour, when citizens expose their lives for the service of their country. But, when interest interferes, this noble trade degenerates into mere robbery.

Question.

If then you are not interested, at least you are ambitious; you wish to rise and to command men like yourself.

Answer.

I make great distinction between ambition and emulation; the first passion often becomes excessive, and approaches vice: but emulation is a desirable virtue; it leads us without jealousy to surpass our rivals, by a better performance of our duties; it is the soul of heroic actions, war-

like and civil; it desires splendour, but will owe its elevation to virtue only, aided by superior talents.

Question.

But could you, by doing an ill office to some one, arrive at an eminent post, should not you think such an expedient the shortest road?

Answer.

I own such a post might tempt my cupidity; but never would I become an assassin for such a purpose.

Question.

What do you understand by becoming an assassin?

Answer.

To murder a man is a less evil than to defame him; to stab with the tongue or with the dagger is the same thing.

Question.

You therefore will not calumniate any one. Without however becoming an assassin, you may happen to kill some person. Not that I suspect you of committing murder, in cold blood; but, should any one of your equals openly declare himself your enemy, and persecute you; should brutality or ill-breeding insult or dishonour you; hurried away by anger, the sweets of revenge would incite you to commit some violent action,

Answer.

Answer.

This ought not to be so ; but I am a man, born with lively passions. I should no doubt have to suffer a severe struggle, in order to repress the first impulse of anger ; this however it is my duty to suppress. It is the office of the laws to revenge the offences done to private persons ; no individual has a right to punish those by whom he has been injured. But should some first emotion unfortunately overpower my reason, I should regret the act of dereliction during life.

Question.

How can you reconcile this conduct, being a soldier, with what the point of honour exacts from a man of birth ? You know that, unfortunately, in all countries, the laws of honour are precisely opposite to the laws of the land.

Answer.

I propose to be circumspect in my conduct, that I may not give occasion to unjustifiable quarrels ; and, should I be involved in such, without blame to myself, I should be obliged to follow the received custom, and wash my hands of affront, be the consequences what they would.

Question.

Since we are upon the point of honour, pray explain to me in what you think it consists.

Answer.

Answer.

In avoiding whatever can render a man despicable, and in obliging him to employ every worthy means, by which he may increase his reputation.

Question.

What is it which renders a man despicable?

Answer.

Debauchery, indolence, folly, ignorance, ill-conduct, cowardice, and vice of every kind.

Question.

What is it which procures a good reputation?

Answer.

Integrity, worthy behaviour, knowledge, application, vigilance, valour, noble actions, civil and military, and, in a word, whatever raises man superior to human weakness.

Question.

Indulge me in a remark on human weakness : you are young, and at a time of life when the passions are the strongest. Should you resist avarice, inordinate ambition, and vengeance, still I imagine I perceive you vanquished by the darts of enchanting woman, who wounds while she seduces, and drives the poisoned barb so deeply into the heart, that reason is bewildered.

How

How already do I pity the husband by whose wife you have been subdued ! What think you ?

Answer.

I am young and frail, I confess ; yet I know my duty ; and I think, without troubling the repose of families, and without employing violence, a young man may appease his passions by less unworthy means.

Question.

I understand you. You allude to the saying of Porcius Cato, who, seeing a young patrician leave the house of a courtesan, exclaimed that he was glad of it ; because, by acting thus, the youth would not disturb the peace of families. Yet this is an expedient subject to strange inconveniences ; and to seduce young women—

Answer.

I will seduce no one, because I will neither deceive others nor perjure myself. To deceive, is a dishonest act ; and to perjure, the act of a rascal.

Question.

What ! When your interest is concerned ?

Answer.

Interest would in such a case be opposed by interest ; for, were I to break my word, I should not dare complain were others to break their word

word with me. And, were I to sport with oaths, how might I depend on the oaths of others?

Question.

Yet, by following the rule of Cato, you would expose yourself to different dangers.

Answer.

He who abandons himself to his passions is a lost man. The general rule which I have prescribed for my conduct through life is—"Use, but do not abuse."

Question.

You speak sagely. But are you certain you shall never depart from this rule?

Answer.

Self preservation will induce me to be careful of my health; and nothing is more ruinous to health than excess in love. I ought therefore to be careful, that I may not exhaust my strength, and may not subject myself to horrid diseases, which would render the flourishing spring of youth languid, sickly, and wretched. How must I reproach myself, were I guilty of my own death! Thus, though the interest of pleasure may drag me along, I shall be held and stopped by the interest of self preservation.

Question.

Nothing can be objected to such reasons.

But,

But, rigid as you are toward yourself, you will no doubt be very severe to others.

Answer.

I am not severe to myself; I am only prudent. I deny myself only that which is injurious to my character, my health, and my honour. Far from being unfeeling, I compassionate all the woes of my fellow-creatures: nor does this satisfy me; I endeavour to assist and render them every service in my power; whether by succouring indigence with the wealth I possess, advising them in trouble, proving their innocence when aspersed, or in giving them recommendations when I find proper opportunities.

Question.

Should you be too liberal in alms, you would expend all your property.

Answer.

I give according to my abilities; it is money which produces a hundred fold, in the sweet pleasure that is experienced while relieving the unfortunate.

Question.

But there is greater danger still, in declaring yourself the defender of the oppressed.

Answer.

And must I behold innocence persecuted, yet
lend

lend it no aid? Knowing the truth, and capable of being a witness against false accusation, I should betray this truth, were I not to bring it to light; and should fail in all the duties of a worthy man, either from insensibility or weakness.

Question.

Yet, considering the nature of mankind, all truths are not proper to be spoken.

Answer.

In general, it is the unqualified manner of speaking truth which renders it disagreeable; when it is announced with modesty, and without fastidiousness, it seldom meets an ill reception. In fine, I know how necessary it is to be assisted and defended. From whom can I demand such services, if I perform none such myself?

Question.

By serving men we frequently oblige only the ungrateful. What profit would you gain by your trouble?

Answer.

To be the cause of ingratitude in others is glorious; but it is infamous to be ungrateful yourself.

Question.

Gratitude is a heavy and often an insupportable

able load ; a benefit received is never repaid. Do not you think it painful to bear the burthen all your life ?

Answer.

No ; because the recollection would incessantly remind me of the noble behaviour of my friends, which I wish never to forget. I have a short memory only on subjects of offence. Without gratitude there can be no virtue ; it is the soul of friendship, the best consolation of life ; it binds us to our kindred, our country, and our benefactors. Never will I forget that society which has seen my birth ; that breast which afforded me nutriment ; that father who brought me up ; that sage who gave me instruction ; that tongue which has defended me ; or that arm by which I have been succoured.

Question.

I confess the services which have been rendered you have been of use. But what interest have you in this return of gratitude ?

Answer.

The greatest of all interest, that of preserving friends for the time of need ; in deserving, by my gratitude, that benevolent minds should aid me ; for there is no man who is never in want of aid. I therefore must render myself worthy
of

of assistance. The world abhors the ungrateful, who are regarded as the perturbators of the most pleasing ties of society, and who render friendship dangerous, and good offices injurious to those by whom they are performed. In fine, the ungrateful return ill for good; and, to do this, the heart must be unfeeling, perverse, and atrocious. Can mine be so? Shall I render myself unworthy of the society of the good? Shall I act in opposition to the secret instinct of my heart, which, loudly admonishing me, says—
“Be not inferior to thy benefactors: return if
“possible the services a hundred fold, which
“thou hast received from their generosity?”
Rather let death terminate my existence than let me disgrace myself by such infamy! That I may be cheerful and contented, it is requisite I should be satisfied with myself; that, when recapitulating my actions on an evening, I should find sufficient to flatter and not to repress my self-love. The more traits of justice, generosity, dignity, gratitude, and grandeur of mind I can discover in myself, the greater will be my satisfaction.

Question.

But you extend your gratitude to your country. What are your obligations?

Answer.

Answer.

Infinite : my talents, such as they are ; my cares, my love, my life, are my country's.

Question.

True it is that patriotism, in Greece and Rome, was productive of the most heroic actions. From this principle, while the laws of Lycurgus continued to be observed, the Spartans maintained their power. In consequence of this inviolable attachment, the Roman republic produced citizens who rendered her the mistress of the world. But how do you combine your interest with that of your country ?

Answer.

Without difficulty ; because every worthy action is followed by its own reward. What I sacrifice of my interest I gain in reputation ; and my country, a kind mother, is indeed obliged to recompense the services she receives.

Question.

In what do such services consist ?

Answer.

They are innumerable. We may be useful to our country, by educating our children in worthy and good principles ; by improving the state of agriculture on our own estates ; by admi-

nistering justice equitably ; by distributing the public revenues disinterestedly ; by endeavouring to render the age in which we live illustrious ; by our virtues, or our knowledge ; by embracing the profession of arms, from a pure sentiment of honour ; by renouncing effeminacy for vigilance and activity, interest for renown, and life for glory ; by acquiring all the knowledge which is necessary to succeed in so difficult an art ; and, in fine, by defending the interests of our country, at our own personal peril. Such are my duties.

Question.

This is to burthen yourself with many cares and troubles.

Answer.

A country rejects useless citizens, who remain its encumbrances. By tacit convention every member is bound to contribute to the good of the great family of the state ; and, as the barren branches of trees are lopped away, in like manner society rejects the debauched, the sauntering, and that whole race of indolent men who, for the most part, are perverse ; who are concentrated in themselves ; and are satisfied with enjoying the advantages of society, without in any manner contributing to its utility. Had I
the

the power, it is my wish to exceed my duties. I am excited by noble emulation to imitate great examples. Why do you think so ill of me, as to believe me incapable of those efforts of virtue, the models of which other men have furnished? Am I not endowed with the same organs as they were? Have I not a heart capable of the same sensations? Shall I put the age in which I live to the blush; and, by my cowardly conduct, give occasion to suspect that we are a degenerate race, incapable of the virtues of our ancestors? Beside, am I not mortal? Do I know when my career may end? And, since die I must, were it not better that my last moments should be glorious, and perpetuate my name to the end of ages, than that I should expire, after having lived a life of insignificance and obscurity, a prey to disease more cruel than the enemy's sword? Or than that myself, my name, and my acts, should lie buried together in the grave? It is my desire to deserve to be known, to be virtuous, to serve my country, and to possess my small niche in the temple of Fame.

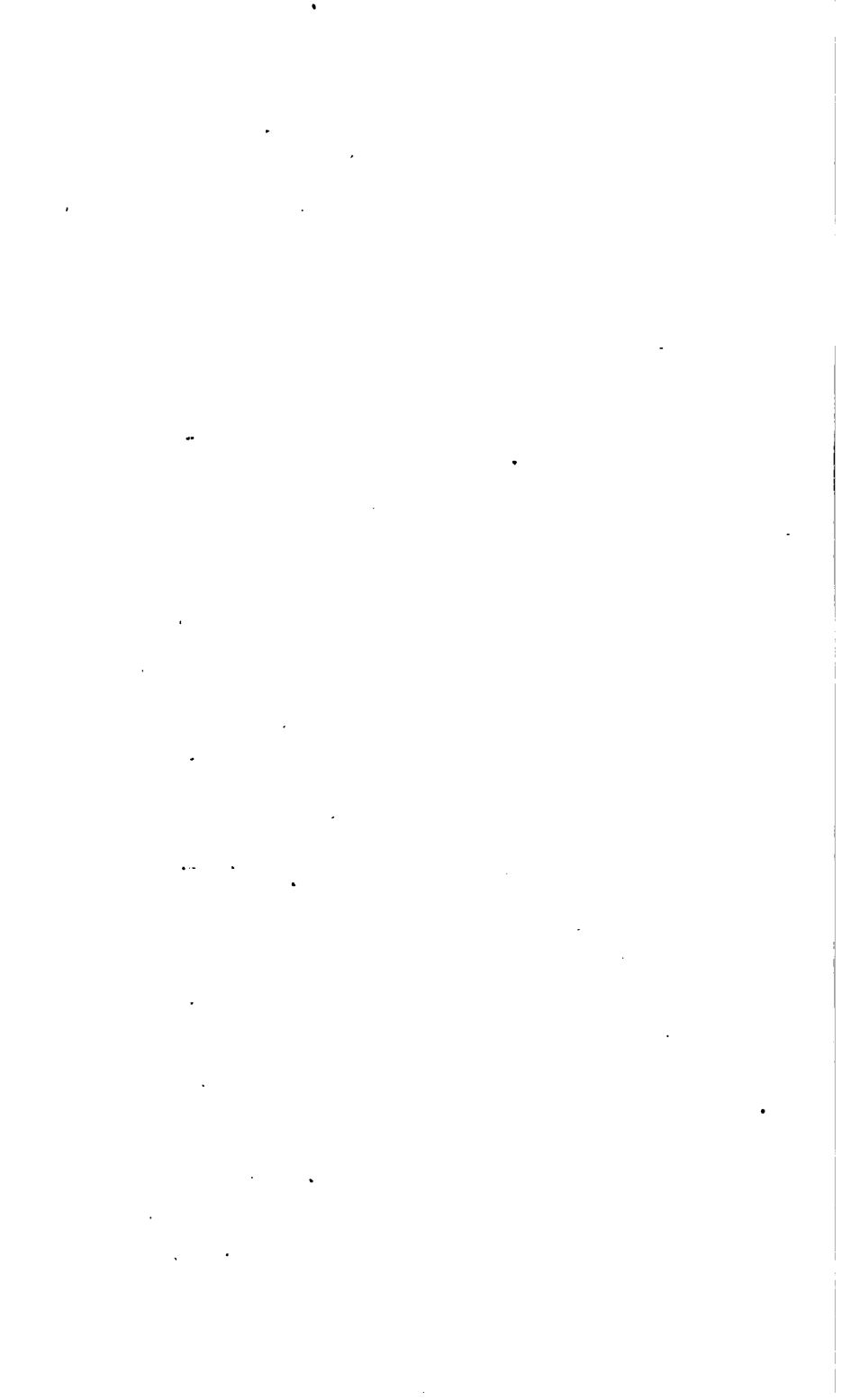
Question.

Thinking thus, possess it you undoubtedly will. Plato has said that the last passion of the sage is the love of fame. I am delighted to per-

ceive these excellent propensities in you. You have discovered that true happiness consists in virtue: persevere in sentiments so noble; and you will neither want friends during your life, nor fame after your death.

EULOGIUM ON VOLTAIRE:

READ BEFORE THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
AND BELLES LETTRES, AT BERLIN, IN AN
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING, CONVOKED
FOR THAT PURPOSE, NOVEMBER
THE 26th, 1778.



E U L O G I U M

O N

V O L T A I R E.

G E N T L E M E N,

IN all ages, especially among the most wise and polished nations, men of high and uncommon genius have been honoured, during their lives, and still more honoured, after their death. They have been considered as phenomena, who, by their own personal splendor, reflect honour on their country. The first lawgivers, who taught men to live in society; the first heroes, who defended their fellow citizens; the philosophers, who searched into the profundities of nature, and there discovered some truths; the poets, who transmitted the great actions of their contemporaries to future generations—these were all of them regarded as beings superior to the human race: they were supposed to be favoured by the particular inspiration of the Deity.

Hence happened it that altars were raised to Socrates; that Hercules was held to be a god; that Greece honoured Orpheus; and that seven cities disputed the glory of having given birth to Homer. The people of Athens, whose education was of the most perfect kind, knew the Iliad by rote; and, with the finest feelings of the heart, celebrated the glory of their ancient heroes, by singing this poem.

Sophocles, who, in like manner, was seen to carry the palm at the theatre, was in great esteem for his genius; and, still more, was entrusted with the execution of the most considerable offices by the republic of Athens. How much Eschinus, Pericles, and Demosthenes were esteemed, all know. All know that Pericles twice saved the life of Diagoras; the first time by protecting him from the fury of the Sophists, and the second by yielding him benevolent assistance.

Whoever, in Greece, was possessed of talents, was certain to find admirers, and even enthusiasts. Encouragement so powerful caused the developement of genius: it was this which gave the mind that elastic force, which made it rise, and surpass the bounds of mediocrity. How great was the emulation philosophers felt, when they heard that Philip of Macedon selected

lected Aristotle, as the only preceptor worthy to educate Alexander ! In this fine age, merit always met its reward ; talents were always honoured ; good authors were distinguished ; the works of Thucydides and of Xenophon were in the hands of all men ; and, in fine, each citizen seemed to participate the fame of those men of genius who then rendered the Grecian name superior to that of all other nations.

Rome soon afterward furnished the world with a similar spectacle. Cicero arose, whose philosophic mind and eloquence elevated him to the height of glory. Lucretius did not live long enough to enjoy his fame. Virgil and Horace were honoured by the suffrages of these republicans, these monarchs ; they were admitted to the familiarity of Augustus ; and partook the rewards which that artful tyrant distributed among those who celebrated his virtues, and cast a veil over his vices.

At the revival of letters, in our western hemisphere, we recollect with pleasure the eagerness with which the Medicis, and some sovereign pontiffs, welcomed men of literature. Petrarch was crowned a poet ; and death deprived Tasso of the honour of being crowned in that same capitol where, formerly, the vanquishers of the world had triumphed.

Louis XIV. ardent to obtain every kind of renown, neglected not that of rewarding those extraordinary men whom nature produced under his reign. He was not satisfied with showering his benefactions on Bossuet, Fenelon, Racine, and Boileau; he extended his munificence to all men of letters, be their country what it would, did but their fame happen to reach his ear.

Such is the esteem in which all ages have held those men of fortunate genius, who seem to ennoble the human species, and whose works are our recreation, and our delight, amid the miseries of life. It is therefore but just that we should pay to the manes of that great man, whose loss Europe deplores, the tribute of praise and admiration which he so well has merited.

We do not propose, gentlemen, to enquire circumstantially into the private life of M. de Voltaire. The history of a king ought to consist in the enumeration of the benefits which he has scattered among his people; that of a warrior, in his campaigns; and that of a man of letters, in an analysis of his works. Anecdotes may amuse curiosity; actions instruct mankind. But, as it is impossible individually to enumerate that multitude of works for which we are indebted to the fecundity of M. de Voltaire, you will kindly

kindly be satisfied, gentlemen, with the sketch I shall trace, while I shall confine myself merely to touch upon the principal events of his life.

To dwell upon researches merely relative to his family, would be to dishonour M. de Voltaire. In opposition to those who owe every thing to their ancestors, nothing to themselves, he was the debtor only of nature; he was himself the sole instrument of his fortune and his fame. We must be satisfied with remembering that his relations, who were of the magistracy, gave him a proper education. He studied at the college of Louis the Great, under the fathers Porée and Tournemine, who were the first to discover the rays of that resplendent flame which shines through his works.

Though young, M. de Voltaire was not regarded as a common child: his talents early began to appear, and introduced him to the house of madame de Rupelmonde. That lady, charmed with the vivacity, wit, and talents of the youthful poet, was his passport into the best companies of Paris. The fashionable world became to him the school in which his taste acquired that delicate discrimination, that politeness, and that urbanity, which never are attained by solitary erudition, that forms an ill

judgment of what may please refined society, and has too distant a view to become acquainted with its manners. To this style of fashion, this varnish which is spread over his works, is M. de Voltaire principally indebted for that vogue in which they at present are.

His tragedy of *Œdipus*, and some agreeable verses to private persons, had appeared in the world, when an indecent satirical poem against the Duke of Orleans, then regent of France, was dispersed through Paris. One La Grange, the author of that work of darkness, that he might avoid suspicion himself, found means to pass it under the name of M. de Voltaire. Government acted with precipitation; the youthful poet, innocent though he was, being arrested, was conducted to the Bastille, where he some months remained. But as it is the property of truth soon or late to appear, the true culprit was punished, and M. de Voltaire justified and released. Could you, gentlemen, have imagined that it was at the Bastille, in prison, that our young bard composed the two first books of his *Henriade*? Though strange, this is true. His prison became his Parnassus, to which the muses resorted! It is equally true that the second book is, now, what it appeared in this first copy. Not having paper, or ink, he learnt the
verses

verses by rote, and retained them in his memory.

Soon after he had gained his freedom, indignant at the unworthy and opprobrious treatment which he had endured, to the disgrace of his country, he retired to England. Here he not only met a most favourable reception from the public, but also soon acquired a number of enthusiastic admirers. At London he finished his *Henriade*; which he then published under the title of *Poëme de la Ligue* *.

Our young poet, who knew how to turn all things to profit, applied himself principally, while in England, to the study of philosophy; for there, at that time, the most sage and profound philosophers flourished. He seized the clue with which the circumspect Locke had guided himself through the labyrinth of metaphysics; and, curbing his impetuous imagination, he soberly sat down to the laborious calculations of the immortal Newton. So well did he appropriate to himself the discoveries of that philosopher, and his progress was such, that, in an abridgment, he gave so clear an exposition of the Newtonian system, that he enabled the unlearned reader to understand what he read. Before he appeared, M. de Fontenelle was the

* The Poem of the League.

only philosopher who, scattering flowers over the thorny path of astronomy, had rendered it susceptible of amusing the fair sex. The English were flattered to find a Frenchman, who, not satisfied with admiring their philosophers, translated them into his own language. The most illustrious characters in London were eager to obtain his acquaintance. Never was stranger more favourably received by that nation. But, however flattering this triumph might be to self-love, the love of his country was victorious in the heart of the poet, and he returned to France.

The Parisians, instructed by the applause bestowed on our young poet, by a nation that was as learned as it was profound, began to suspect that a man of genius had arisen among them. His Letters on the English then appeared, in which the author, with bold and rapid strokes, painted the manners, arts, religion, and government of that people. His tragedy of Brutus, written to give pleasure to a free nation, soon succeeded; as likewise did his Marianne, and many other pieces.

There was at that time, in France, a lady celebrated by her taste for the arts and the sciences. You will easily imagine, gentlemen, the lady I allude to was the illustrious marchioness

chionefs du Chatelet. She had read the philosophic works of our young author; she soon became acquainted with him; her desire of information, and her ardour deeply to examine the few truths which the human mind is capable of examining, increased their friendship, and rendered it indissoluble. Madame du Chatelet immediately abandoned the Theodicea of Leibnitz, and the ingenious romances of that philosopher, that, in their stead, she might adopt the method of the circumspect and prudent Locke; which was less calculated to gratify the ardour of curiosity, than to convince the understanding. She studied geometry sufficiently to follow Newton in his abstract calculations. She was even so persevering, in her application, that she composed an abridgment of this system, for the use of her son. Cirey soon became the philosophic retreat of these two friends: there they both composed works of different kinds, which they communicated to each other; endeavouring, by mutual remark, to impart to their productions that degree of perfection to which it was probable they could attain. Here *Zaïre*, *Alzire*, *Merope*, *Semiramis*, *Catiline*, *Electra*, or *Orestes*, were composed.

M. de Voltaire, whose activity rendered him universal, did not entirely confine himself to
the

the pleasure of enriching the theatre by his tragedies. It was for the use of the marchioness du Chatelet that he wrote his *Essay on Universal History*. The *History of Louis XIV.* and the *History of Charles XII.* had previously appeared.

An author of genius so rare, equally various and correct, could not escape the notice of the French academy: this seminary claimed him as a son; he became a member of that illustrious body, of which he was one of the brightest ornaments. Louis XV. that he might distinguish him, honoured him with the place of his Gentleman in Ordinary, and with that of Historiographer of France, which it may be said he had already filled, by writing the *History of Louis XIV.*

Sensible as M. de Voltaire was to such splendid marks of approbation, he still was more so to friendship. Inseparably attached to madame du Chatelet, the magnificence of a brilliant court dazzled not his eyes, so as to induce him to prefer the grandeur of Versailles to the abode of Luneville*; much less to the pleasing retreat of Cirey. These two friends there peaceably enjoyed that portion of happiness of which

* Where Stanislaus, the dethroned king of Poland, held his court. T.

humanity is susceptible, when the death of the marchioness du Chatelet interrupted a union so enviable : this was a blow too severe for the sensibility of M. de Voltaire ; and, to support it, he was obliged to exert all his philosophy.

At the very time when he was employing his whole force to vanquish his affliction, he was invited to the court of Prussia : the king, who had seen him in the year 1740, was desirous of acquiring a man of genius of such uncommon eminence. M. de Voltaire came to Berlin in the year 1752. There were no subjects with which he was not acquainted ; his conversation was as instructive as it was pleasing ; his imagination as brilliant as it was various ; and his wit as quick as his understanding was collected : he embellished the barrenness of his subject by the graces of fiction. In a word, he was the delight of all society.

An unfortunate dispute arose between him and M. de Maupertuis, which occasioned these two learned men, formed as they were to love and not to hate each other, to entertain sentiments of enmity ; and the war which followed, in 1756, inspired M. de Voltaire with the wish to fix his residence in Switzerland. He first went to Geneva and Lausanne ; he afterward purchased

the *Délices**; and finally settled at Ferney. He divided his time between study and labour; he read and wrote; and thus by the fruitfulness of his genius afforded employment to all the booksellers of these Cantons.

The residence of M. de Voltaire, the effervescence of his genius, and the facility of his productions, persuaded his whole neighbourhood that nothing more than will was wanting to become a man of wit. The supposition seemed like a kind of epidemic disease, with which the Swiss, who are not supposed to be the most apt of mankind, were attacked: they could no longer express themselves on the commonest subjects but by antitheses, or an epigrammatic point. The city of Geneva most powerfully felt the contagion: the citizens, who imagined themselves nothing less than so many *Lycurgues*, were all disposed to frame new laws for their country; while none were willing to obey those that were in existence. These emotions, occasioned by an ill-conceived zeal for freedom, gave rise to a kind of insurrection, and a war that was rather ridiculous than serious. M. de Voltaire did not fail to immortalize the event, by writing a poem on the said war, after the manner of Homer's *War of the Frogs and Mice*.

* An estate to which M. de Voltaire gave this name. T.

His pen was sometimes employed on theatrical subjects, sometimes in historical and philosophical miscellanies, and at others in allegoric and moral romances; yet, at the time that he thus enriched literature with his new productions, he likewise applied himself to rural œconomy. This proves how susceptible a good understanding is of assuming every form. Ferney was an estate consisting chiefly of waste land, when purchased by our philosopher: by him it was cultivated; and not only repeopled, but he there assembled numerous artists and manufacturers.

Do not let us, gentlemen, too suddenly recollect the occasion of our grief: leave we for a time M. de Voltaire in tranquillity at Ferney; and let us in the interim cast a more attentive retrospect over his numerous and various productions. History informs us that Virgil, when dying, ill satisfied with the *Æneid*, which he had not brought to the perfection he himself wished, was desirous it should be burnt. The long life of M. de Voltaire enabled him to polish and correct his Poem of the League, and to render it what it at present is, under the name of the *Henriade*. Envy has reproached our author, by asserting it was only an imitation of the *Æneid*; and it must be confessed the subjects of some of the books have a similarity: but they

are not fervile copies. If Virgil depicted the destruction of Troy, Voltaire displayed the horrors of St. Bartholomew. The amour between Henry IV. and the beautiful Gabrielle has been compared to the loves of Dido and Æneas; and the dream of Henry IV., with the prophecy of the future destiny of the Bourbons by St. Louis, to the descent of Æneas into hell, where Anchises discovers to his son his future posterity. Might I dare venture my opinion, I should judge the superiority of two of the books to the French; that is to say, the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and the dream of Henry IV. Virgil is superior to Voltaire only in the loves of Dido, for there the Latin author speaks to and interests the heart, and the French speaks only in allegory: but, were we candidly to examine the two poems without prejudice, either for the ancients or the moderns, we should confess that many of the parts of the Æneid would not be suffered in works written by our cotemporaries; as, for example, the funeral honours which Æneas renders his father Anchises; the fable of the harpies, their prophecy to the Trojans, in which they tell them they shall be obliged to eat their plates, and the manner in which that prophecy is accomplished; the sow with her nine pigs, which denote the place where Æneas is to find an end to all

all his labours; his ships changed into nymphs; a stag killed by Ascanius, which occasions the war between the Trojans and Rutuli; and the hatred which the gods infuse into the hearts of Amata and Lavinia against Æneas, whom Lavinia finally marries. Probably these were the defects with which Virgil himself was dissatisfied, when he determined to burn his book; and which, according to the opinion of judicious critics, ought to place the *Æneid* below the *Henriade*.

If difficulties to vanquish constitute the merits of an author, M. de Voltaire had certainly more to surmount than Virgil. The subject of the *Henriade* is the reduction of Paris, accomplished by the conversion of Henry IV.: the poet consequently had not the liberty to put the whole machinery of the marvellous in motion; he was confined to Christian mysteries, which are much less fruitful in agreeable and picturesque images than was the Pagan mythology. We certainly cannot read the tenth book of the *Henriade* without confessing that the charms of poetry have the gift of ennobling all subjects. M. de Voltaire was the only person dissatisfied with his poem. He thought his hero was not exposed to perils sufficiently great, and that consequently he must interest less than Æneas, who

never escapes one danger without being assaulted by another.

Examining the tragedies of M. de Voltaire with the same spirit of impartiality, we must own that, in some respects, he is superior to Racine; and, in others, inferior to that famous poet. *Œdipus* was the first play M. de Voltaire wrote; his mind was impressed with the beauties of Sophocles and Euripides, and his memory incessantly recollected the continued and flowing elegance of Racine. Thus doubly potent, his first production was introduced to the theatre as a master-piece. Some critics, perhaps, not sufficiently candid, were offended that old Jocasta should, at the sight of *Philoctetes*, feel a passion, that was almost extinct in her bosom, again take birth. But, had the part of *Philoctetes* been retrenched, those beauties which are produced by the contrasts between his character and that of *Œdipus*, would have been lost.

His *Brutus* has been supposed to be more proper for representation on the theatre of London than on that of Paris; because a father who in cold blood condemns his son to death is regarded as a barbarian; whereas, in England, a consul sacrificing the very blood of his body to the liberties of his country, is respected as a god.

His *Marian*, and numerous other pieces, *signalize*

nalize both the art of poetry, and the fecundity of the author's genius. We must not however disguise truth; we must observe that criticism, perhaps too severe, has reproached our poet, by affirming the contexture of his tragedies was far from being so natural and probable as that of the tragedies of Racine. While Iphigenia, Phedra, and Athalia are represented, say these critics, you imagine yourself present at an action which naturally and clearly developes itself; whereas, when Zaire is acted, you must delude your mind relative to probability, and pay but small attention to certain defects by which it is shocked: they add that the second act is a digression, during which the auditor is condemned to endure the dotage of the aged Lusignan, who, finding himself again in his palace, knows not where he is; who speaks of his ancient feats of arms, in the language of a lieutenant-colonel of the regiment of Navarre, become the governor of Peronne. The means by which he recollects his children are not very evident. To induce his daughter to be a christian, he informs her she is on the hill where Abraham sacrificed, or would have sacrificed, his son Isaac; he makes her promise to be baptized, after Châtillon had attested that he himself had baptized her; and that this is the plot of the piece: after Lusignan has en-

grossed this cold and languid act, he dies of an apoplexy, without any person being interested by his death. It should seem, since a priest and a sacrament were necessary to the plot, that the eucharist might have been substituted to baptism.—But however well founded these remarks might be, they are entirely forgotten in the fifth act; pathos, pity, and terror, which this great poet has the art to excite in so superior a manner, hurry away the spectator, who, agitated by passions so powerful, forgets trifling defects, in favour of beauties so great.

It will therefore be confessed that Racine possesses the advantage of being more natural, more probable, in the texture of his dramas; and that throughout them reign a continued elegance, a sweetness, a flow of versification, which no other poet since him has approached; but, in opposition to these, some verses excepted, which have too much of the epic in the plays of M. de Voltaire, it must be allowed, if we will only forget the fifth act of Catiline, he possessed the art of increasing the interest of the plot scene by scene, and act after act, so as to carry it to the extreme at the catastrophe. This is certainly the perfection of poetry.

His universal genius was capable of all. After having wrestled with Virgil, and perhaps thrown

thrown him, he wished to contend with Ariosto : he wrote his Maid of Orleans in the manner of the Orlando Furioso. The former poem is not an imitation of the latter ; the fable, the marvellous, and the episodes, are all original ; all breathe gaiety, and a vivid imagination.

His short poems, written on social occasions, are the delight of all persons of taste ; the author of them was the only person who held them in no esteem ; though Anacreon, Horace, Ovid, Tibullus, and all the great authors of antiquity, have left us no models in their various kinds which he has not equalled. These works he wrote without effort, but these were not to him satisfactory. His opinion was, that, to possess well-merited fame, it must be acquired by conquering the greatest impediments.

After having given an abstract of the talents of the poet, let us pass on to those of the historian. His History of Charles XII. was the first he composed ; he was the Quintus Curtius of that Alexander. The flowers with which he strews his subject do not alter the reality of the facts : he depicts the ardent valour of the northern hero, in the most glowing colours—his fortitude on certain occasions, his obstinacy on others, his prosperity, and his misfortunes.

After having made trial of his strength on
Charles

Charles XII. he ventured to attempt the history of the age of Louis XIV. He did not in this employ the romantic style of Quintus Curtius, but substituted that of Cicero ; who, pleading for the Manilia law, made an eulogium on Pompey. A Frenchman himself, he enthusiastically enumerates the famous events of this fine age of France ; exposes, in all their splendour, the advantages which at that time gave his nation a preponderancy over so many other nations. He cites the numerous men of genius who seem to have been moulded by the hand of Louis XIV. ; and depicts the reign of the arts and sciences, protected by a polished court ; the progress of industry, of every kind ; and that intrinsic strength of France, which in some measure rendered her king the arbiter of Europe. This work, unique in its kind, deservedly acquired M. de Voltaire the attachment and gratitude of the whole French nation, whose worth had been more nobly depicted by him than by any other of their writers.

The style employed by him in his *Essay on Universal History*, is again varied : it is strong and simple. The character of his mind is more manifested, by the manner in which he has treated that history, than in his other writings. We there see the impetuosity of superior genius taking

taking an enlarged view of every subject, attaching itself to what is important, and neglecting whatever is trifling. The work is not written to teach history to those by whom it has not been studied, but to recal to mind the principal facts after having been previously read. He keeps the first law of history, that of speaking truth, continually in view; and the reflections which he scatters are not digressions, but rise out of the subject.

We have still numerous other treatises by M. de Voltaire, to analyse which is almost impossible: some turn on subjects of criticism; others on metaphysics, which he enlightens; and others again on astronomy, history, philosophy, eloquence, poetry, and mathematics. His very romances bear the stamp of originality. *Zadig*, *Micromégas*, and *Candide*, are works which seem to breathe the spirit of frivolity; yet contain moral or critical allegories on some modern systems, in which the agreeable and the useful are inseparably combined.

Talents so various, and science so diverse, united in one single person, threw his readers into surprize mingled with astonishment. Recal to mind, gentlemen, the lives of the great men of antiquity, whose names have descended to us, and we shall find that each of them li-
mited

mitted himself to one species of knowledge. Aristotle and Plato were philosophers ; Eschinus and Demosthenes, orators ; Homer, an epic poet ; Sophocles wrote tragedies ; Anacreon, odes ; Thucydides and Xenophon, history. Thus, among the Romans, Virgil, Horace, Ovid, and Lucretius, were poets ; Varro and Livy, historians ; Crassus the elder, Antony, and Hortensius, satisfied themselves with oratory ; Cicero, the consul orator, the defender and father of his country, was the only one who united in himself various species of science and talents. To the grand art of eloquence, in which he excelled all his cotemporaries, he added the profound study of philosophy, such as it then was : this appears from his Tusculan Epistles, his admirable treatise on the Nature of the Gods, and his Offices, which is perhaps the best moral work we yet possess. Cicero was even a poet : he translated the verses of Aratus into Latin ; and it is supposed his corrections improved the poem of Lucretius.

We have therefore been obliged to extend our enquiries through a space of seventeen centuries, to find, among the multitude of men who have composed the human race, Cicero alone, whose knowledge might be compared with that of our illustrious author. It may be

affirmed, if I may be permitted thus to express myself, that M. de Voltaire was himself equal to a whole academy. There are essays written by him, in which we imagine we meet with Bayle, armed with all his logical arguments ; in others we think we are reading Thucydides. Here he is a philosopher, discovering the secrets of nature ; and there a metaphysician, who, resting on analogy and experiment, follows with measured steps the traces of Locke. In other of his works we discover the rival of Sophocles : here he scatters flowers as he proceeds ; there he playfully puts on the sock ; though it seems that his elevated imagination did not take pleasure in confining its flight to the sportive track of Terence or Moliere. Soon you see him mounting his Pegasus, who, extending his wings, transports him to the heights of Helicon, where the god of the muses assigns him a place between Homer and Virgil.

Productions so various, and efforts of genius so great, produced at length strong sensations on the minds of mankind ; and all Europe applauded the superior talents of M. de Voltaire. Yet must it not be supposed he was spared by jealousy and envy ; they sharpened all their darts to wound. That innate spirit of independence
in

in mankind, which inspires them with aversion for authority the most legitimate, made them revolt with still greater bitterness against a superiority of talents, which, wanting strength, they could not attain. But the clamours of envy were drowned in the acclamations of applause. Men of letters thought themselves honoured by the acquaintance of this great man. Whoever was philosopher enough to esteem nothing so much as personal merit, placed M. de Voltaire far above those whose ancestors, titles, pride, and wealth constitute their whole worth. M. de Voltaire was one of the small number of philosophers who may say, *Omnia mecum porto*. Princes, sovereigns, kings, and empresses, heaped on him marks of their esteem and admiration. Not that we pretend to insinuate that the grandees of the earth are those who best can estimate merit; but the fact at least proves the fame of our author to be so generally established, that the chiefs of nations, far from contradicting the public voice, imagined it their duty to join in approbation.

But as in this world good is every where intermingled with evil, it happened that M. de Voltaire, alive to the universal applause which he enjoyed, was not less so to the stings of those
insects

infects that wallow in the mud of the waters of Hippocrene *. Far from punishing, he immortalized them, by admitting their obscure names a place in his works.

But the bespattering he received from them was trifling, compared to the more violent persecutions he endured from ecclesiastics; who, being professionally the ministers of peace, ought to practise nothing but charity and benevolence. Blinded by false zeal, and brutalized by fanaticism, they seize their prey, and by calumniating wish to destroy. Their ignorance rendered their plan abortive; wanting knowledge, they confounded ideas the most evident; so that passages in which our author insinuated toleration, were by them interpreted to contain the dogmas of atheism: and this same Voltaire, who had exerted all the resources of his genius powerfully to prove the existence of a God, heard himself, to his great astonishment, accused of denying that existence. The devout, who thus so mal-adroitly shed their gall over him, met with approbation among people of their own class, but not among those who had the least tincture of the art of reasoning. His true

* The metaphor is his majesty's; the reader will judge for himself how far it is allowable, recollecting the poetic purity of these fabulous waters. T.

crime consisted in not having cowardly disguised, in his history, the vices of so many pontiffs who had dishonoured the church; because he had said, with Paul Sarpi, Fleuri, and numerous others, that the passions often have greater influence, on the conduct of priests, than the inspiration of the Holy Spirit; because, in his works, he infused horror into the minds of his readers against the abominable massacres which false zeal had committed; and finally because he treated with contempt those unintelligible and frivolous quarrels, to which divines of every sect attach so much importance.

To finish the picture, let us add that all the works of M. de Voltaire sold as soon as they came from the press; while, at the same time bishops beheld, with holy vexation, their pastoral letters worm-eaten, or rotting in the shops of the booksellers. Thus did the imbecillity of priests reason: their stupidity might be pardoned, did not their ill-drawn conclusions injure the peace of mankind. Truth is obliged to say, that logic so false is sufficient to characterize beings so vile and contemptible; who, publicly professing to subdue their reason, are openly divorced from common sense.

Since we are here justifying M. de Voltaire, we ought not to conceal any of the accusations brought

brought against him. Bigotry imputed to him the crime of having disseminated the opinions of Epicurus, Hobbs, Wollaston, Lord Bolingbroke, and other philosophers. But is it not evident that, far from confirming these opinions, by those remarks which others are free to add, he satisfied himself with stating facts, the decision on which he left to his readers? Beside, if the foundation of religion be truth, what has religion to apprehend from all that falsehood can invent? Of this M. de Voltaire was so well convinced that he did not suppose the doubts of a few philosophers could be superior to divine inspiration.

But let us extend our remarks; let us compare the morality which prevails through his works to that of his persecutors. Men ought to love each other, said he, like brothers; their duty is mutually to aid each other, while supporting the burthen of life, in which the sum of evil is greater than the sum of good. Their opinions are as different as their countenances. Far from persecuting, because they do not think alike, they ought to be satisfied with rectifying the judgments of those who are in error, by reasoning, without substituting fire and flames to argument; and, in a word, they ought to behave toward their neighbour, as they wish their

neighbour should behave toward them. Is this the language of M. de Voltaire, or of the holy gospel? Let us contrast this with the practical morality of hypocrisy, or of false zeal, which thus expresses itself:—We must exterminate those who do not think as we wish them to think; we must be the terror of such as endeavour to unmask our vices and our ambition; let God be the buckler of our iniquities; let men destroy each other, let blood flow. What matters this to us, provided our authority do but increase? Let us paint an implacable and cruel God, that the custom duties of Purgatory and Paradise may augment our revenues. Thus does religion too often take advantage of the passions of men, and perversely turn sources the most pure to be the fountain of ill.

The cause of M. de Voltaire being such as we have stated, he gained the sentence of applause at every tribunal over which reason, instead of mystical sophistry, presided. Whatever persecution he might endure from theological hatred, he failed not to distinguish religion itself from those by whom religion is dishonoured. To the ecclesiastics, whose virtues were the true ornaments of the church, he rendered justice; he blamed none but such as, by the perversity of their morals, became abhorred of mankind.

Thus

Thus did M. de Voltaire pass his life amid the persecutions of those who envied him, and the admiration of his enthusiasts, without being humbled by the sarcasms of the former, or inflated by the applauses the latter bestowed: he was satisfied with instructing the world; and, by his writings, with inspiring the love of letters and of man. Not contented with giving moral precepts, he preached benevolence by example. He it was who courageously stood forth the defender of the unhappy family of Calas, who pleaded the cause of the Sirvens, and wrested them from the barbarous power of their judges; nay, had he possessed the gift of miracles, he would have raised the chevalier La Barre from the dead. How noble a picture is a philosopher, buried in retreat, pleading aloud the cause of humanity, and obliging judges to repeal the sentences of injustice! Had M. de Voltaire done nothing more, he would have merited a place among that small number who are justly esteemed the true benefactors of men. Thus we see philosophy and religion in concert point to the road of virtue. Examine who is the most a christian—the magistrate who cruelly forces a family into banishment, or the philosopher who welcomes and yields it support; the judge who

L 1 2

employs

employs the sword of law to assassinate the thoughtless, but not guilty, or the sage who would save the life of youth, that he might correct his errors; the executioner of Calas, or the protector of that miserable family?—These, gentlemen, are facts which will render the memory of M. de Voltaire for ever dear to those who have feeling hearts, and minds capable of emotion. Precious as the gifts of understanding, imagination, elevated genius, and extensive knowledge are, these gifts, of which nature is but rarely prodigal, are not superior to acts of humanity and benevolence; the first are admired, the second blessed and revered.

However painful, gentlemen, it may be to me, ever to be separated from M. de Voltaire, I feel the moment approach at which I am obliged to renew that affliction in you which his loss has occasioned. We left him peaceful at Ferney: affairs of personal interest induced him to remove to Paris, where he hoped to arrive soon enough to save some remains of his fortune from a bankruptcy in which he was involved. He wished not again to appear in his country with an empty hand. His time, which he divided between philosophy and the belles lettres, furnished him a number of works, some
of

of which he always had in reserve. Having composed a new tragedy, the subject of which is Irene, he was desirous to have it acted on the theatre of Paris. It was his custom to subject his pieces to the most severe examination, before he exposed them to public exhibition. In conformity to these principles, he consulted all the men of taste with whom he was acquainted at Paris : sacrificing vain self-love to the desire of rendering his labours worthy of posterity, listening to the sound advice of criticism, he endeavoured with ardent and singular zeal to render his tragedy correct. He passed whole nights in new modelling his work ; and whether it were to ward off sleep, or to reinvigorate his mind, he made an immoderate use of coffee : fifty cups per day were scarcely sufficient. This liquor threw his blood into the most violent agitation, and brought on heat so excessive that, to calm this kind of inflammatory fever, he had recourse to opiates, of which he took strong doses. Far from removing the disease, these did but accelerate his end. Soon after having taken this medicine with so little precaution, a species of palsy became manifest ; and this was followed by an apoplectic stroke, which terminated his life.

Though M. de Voltaire was feeble in constitution, and though grief, care, and excessive application, had contributed to weaken it, he lived to the age of eighty-four. Mind was in him continually superior to matter ; the strength of his soul communicated vigour to a body almost transparent. His memory was astonishing, and he preserved all the faculties of his mind and imagination to his last sigh. With what joy, gentlemen, shall I bring to your recollection those testimonies of admiration, and gratitude, which the people of Paris rendered to this great man, during his last residence in his country ! Uncommon as it is, how delightful is it to see the public equitable ; to see them render justice during life to those extraordinary beings, whom nature is pleased only to produce at distant periods, that they may receive, even from their cotemporaries, the applauses they are certain to obtain from posterity ! It might well be expected that a man who had employed the whole sagacity of his genius to celebrate the glory of his nation, should find some rays reverted back upon himself. Thus the French felt ; and, by their enthusiasm, rendered themselves worthy of partaking the lustre their countryman had shed upon them and their age.

